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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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WEATHER FORECAST:
OVERCAST.
Barometer 29.83.

May 26, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 71 2 p.m. 84
Humidity 94

May 26, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 79 2 p.m. 86
Humidity 89 93

7665 日六初月四

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1917.

六拜禮 日六廿月五英曆

SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS.
PER ANNUM.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

GRAPPLING WITH SUBMARINISM.

Hopes of Better Days.

London, May 25.

Lord Curzon, in the House of Lords, said that the reason why the Premier suggested the postponement of the decision of the stoppage of horse racing, was that the greater success in grappling with submarine might alter the food situation in the next six weeks or two months.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Increased Aerial Activity.

London, May 25.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, says:—Our machine gun fire drove off a raid in the neighbourhood of Armentieres.

Aerial activity increased on Wednesday. Five German machines were brought down and six were driven down. Three of ours are missing.

Violent Artillery Duel.

London, May 25.

A French communique says:—The artillery duel is intermittently violent in the regions of Valenciennes, the California Plateau, and Chevreux. During the night of May 23, our aeroplanes dropped 2,200 kilograms of bombs on a railway station in the region of Remel, and it broke out.

BETTER NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

Appeals to the Troops.

London, May 25.

Generally speaking, the news from Russia is better than that of a week ago. Crews of the Baltic Fleet have returned to their posts and discipline has thereupon been revived.

The New Government is making a big effort to evolve order out of chaos. M. Kerensky in this particular is most active at present, touring the fronts and urging the necessity of maintaining the fighting efficiency. His speech, cabled on May 19, has already had some effect. On reading it the Sevastopol Garrison immediately volunteered for service on the R. G. Front.

Colonel Yakubovich, Assistant War Minister, addressing the Council of Delegates, begged the soldiers not to misinterpret the paragraph in the declaration of the new rights of soldiers which suppresses a compulsory military salute in favour of a voluntary reciprocal salute.

The Franco-British Socialist Missions are also doing good. Addressing a congress of the Second Army at Petrograd, they said that a general peace was only possible when the Emperor William had met the fate of the Tsar.

THE IMPERIAL WAR CONFERENCE.

Dealing with Indian Emigration.

London, May 24.

A Blue Book of one hundred and sixty three pages, dealing with the proceedings of the Imperial War Conference, has been issued. It contains the resolutions passed, which have already been published, extracts from the minutes, and a number of papers laid before the Conference, notably a Memorandum on emigration from India to the Dominions, which was presented by the Indian representatives, and which the Conference recommended to the favourable consideration of the Governments concerned. The Memorandum suggests the following as a basis for agreement:—

1.—As regards Indians already permanently settled in the Dominions, they should be allowed to bring in their wives (subject to the rule of monogamy) and minor children, and in other respects should not be less privileged than Japanese settled emigrants;

2.—Future admissions of Indians for labour or settlement should, if possible, be regulated on lines similar to, and not less favourable than, those governing the admission of any other Asiatic race;

3.—If this is impossible, there might be reciprocal treatment in India each Dominion of immigration for the purposes of labour or permanent settlement. If a Dominion is determined to exclude these two classes of immigration from India, India should be free to do the same as regards that Dominion. It would clearly be recognised that exclusion in either case was not dictated by motives of race prejudice, but was the outcome of different economic conditions;

4.—Along with such exclusion reciprocal arrangements would be made for granting full facilities for the admission of tourists, students and the like, and for business visits entailing temporary residence, so long as this residence was not for labour purposes or for permanent settlement.

THE OVERSEAS CLUB.

Over One Hundred Aeroplanes Presented.

London, May 25.

Mr. Walter Long, at the annual meeting of the Overseas Club, handed a cheque to the Flying Corps for the purchase of the hundredth aeroplane of the Overseas Imperial Aircraft Flotilla, subscribed by Britishers overseas. It was explained that since the cheque was received Durban and Shanghai had provided additional machines.

Mr. Long, after paying a glowing tribute to the Air Service, alluded to the Colonies, and said that there were those in this country even to-day who failed to recognise the future of the Overseas Dominions and who were blind to the possibilities of the British Empire. Some of the Empire's greatest possibilities were to be found in the most distant parts. If the Empire was going to be what it ought to be, namely the most united self-reliant, and peace-loving in the more distant possessions, the immensity of which few of us to-day could realise.

The long days of lip service to the Overseas Dominions had gone. The testimony of regard which the British Government had received during the war from native races touched him to the very heart. Many such testimonies had been referred, thanking us for what we had done for them.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE TORPEDOED TRANSPORT.

Destroyers Rescue the Survivors.

London, May 25.

An official message says that escorting destroyers picked up the Transylvania survivors.

The Last Scenes.

London, May 25.

A nurse survivor from the Transylvania says that when the submarine fired a torpedo, the Captain endeavoured to reach the shore, ten miles distant, but another torpedo struck the engine room. The vessel sank in an hour. The boats were launched most orderly, and the men on deck sang as the boats left, shouting to the women "Good-bye, see you again soon."

There were troops aboard, but, owing to the rough sea, it was impossible to save them. One hundred and fifty men stood on deck at attention when the ship sank.

Captain Bessell dived into the sea from the bridge. He was rescued but died the following day. Many men swam ashore.

BRAZIL AND GERMANY.

London, May 24.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Rio de Janeiro, the Foreign Minister, Senhor Pessanha, states that Brazil need not declare war on Germany, but must accept a state of war which circumstances have imposed on her. She must give full attention to military and naval organisation, especially with a view to collaborating in the policing of the South Atlantic, and she must be ready for any eventuality.

[In the event of telegrams arriving too late for insertion on this page they will be found on an Extra.]

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE COLOUR QUESTION IN AFRICA.

London, May 23.

General Smuts, speaking at the Savoy Hotel dinner given in his honour, contended that a policy of national unity was entirely consistent with the preservation of the traditions and the best interests of the land and of the two white races which would build up a more powerful and stronger race than if they remained apart. The policy of keeping the "purity of two races distinct" was an error. Turning to the native problem, General Smuts said they must have realised that South Africa was not yet a white man's country. The native question was a more difficult question than it had been in America, owing to the preponderance of Blacks over Whites. They were striving to solve the problem. The main idea was to introduce a system of self-government for native races, running on parallel lines and similar in principle to a white self-government but on lines appropriate to native thoughts and instincts. The two forms of self-government could be managed without undesirable commingling of races. They were going to make the attempt. The experiment might take a century to achieve good results, but it was the best policy they could initiate to prevent a mixture of white and black blood. That was a South African axiom.

AUSTRALIA AND INDIAN TEA.

London, May 23.

In the House of Commons, Sir John Rees suggested that Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Long might obtain a prohibition of the import of Java tea to Australia in favour of Indian and Ceylon tea.

Mr. Chamberlain replied that the matter was entirely within the discretion of the Commonwealth Government. If the Government saw fit to give advantage to Indian over foreign tea, needless to say he would welcome it; but he did not think that he could usefully or properly act regarding any particular industry.

BRITISH TRANSPORT TORPEDOED.

London, May 24.

The Admiralty announces that the British transport Transylvania was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on May 4. The following were lost:—23 officers and 373 of other ranks, as well as the captain one officer, and nine of the crew.

FRENCH CAPTURE OF PRISONERS.

London, May 24.

A French communique states that the German attack on the Vanciers Plateau yesterday evening was driven back with serious losses. Prisoners we took here on May 22 belong to six regiments of four different divisions. We have taken prisoner 8,600 unwounded Germans since May 1. between Soissons and Auberive.

ITALIANS CAPTURE 9,000 PRISONERS.

London, May 24.

An Italian official message says that in the Carpo yesterday, after ten hours violent bombardment, we assaulted and broke through the enemy's lines from Castagnavizza to the sea. While we were heavily engaging the enemy left, our troops, after carrying enemy trenches on the centre and right, occupied part of the area southward of Castagnavizza and Boscomalo Road, passed Boscomalo, and Locate. We captured Jaminano and five strongly fortified heights. The sudden onslaught surprised and non-plussed the enemy who counter-attacked in the evening, and was severely repulsed. We took prisoner over 9,000 yesterday, including 300 officers. 130 of our aeroplanes and seaplanes participated in the battle. They dropped ten tons of bombs on the enemy lines and used machine guns against the troops. All returned safely. Ten British batteries largely contributed in the bombardment. We repulsed heavy attacks at Gorizia and captured a strong point north-west of the slopes of San Marco. We considerably progressed at Monte Santo and Vodice, after severe fighting.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

NOTEWORTHY SPEECH BY SIR EDWARD CARSON.

London, May 24.

Sir Edward Carson, First Lord of the Admiralty, was the guest of the British Empire Producers' Organisation. Lord Beresford, who presided, read the following telegram from Mr. Hughes, Premier of Australia. "The resolutions of the Imperial War Conference will draw more closely together the bonds of Empire. The victory of the National Government in Australia has shown Australia's attitude towards the Empire. I wish the Producers' Organisation success."

Lord Beresford said that only those who before the war had pointed out the danger of starvation had the right to criticise the Admiralty now. He declared that the submarine menace was not yet in hand, and that nothing but over-water craft in large numbers could beat the submarine in blue water.

Sir Edward Carson, responding to the toast of his health, said it was difficult to find time beforehand to compose speeches, because giving six hours daily to the Irish question besides doing duty at the Admiralty left one somewhat pressed and depressed. After mentioning that the Producers' Organisation represented seven hundred millions sterling capital, spread over the Empire, he said that some years ago his son, now commanding a submarine, desired to join the Navy Class at school. He tried to persuade him that it was better to make money as a lawyer—(Laughter)—but his son replied "You don't seem to realize the importance of the fact of the navy being the great connecting link between the Mother country and the Colonies." I told him if he put things on such a high plane, I had nothing more to say. Only yesterday, as First Lord, I had to read an account of an attempt by our own destroyers to sink his submarine (laughter).

Sir Edward Carson, proceeding, deprecated attacks upon the navy. "Attack me if you like, but for heaven's sake don't attack the man at the wheel, who is doing his best night and day in dangerous and difficult operations of which you hear nothing (cheers). There was one result of the war that nothing could deprive us of, namely, the utilisation and organisation of the vast resources of the Empire in the most advantageous manner to every part of the Empire. The war had demonstrated three or four fundamental facts, first, what our resources were; secondly, that by a little trouble and organisation they might make the Empire self-supporting; third, that blood was thicker than water; fourth, that we had been living in a fool's paradise, in allowing these resources to be used for strengthening our enemies and forging weapons to enable them to fight us. (Heard hear.)"

The war was being fought in vain if that state of affairs did not end. Without new methods, the victories of our Armies and Fleet would be in vain. God help us if we got back to old Party ideals. When he looked back at Imperial preference it seemed to him there was preference for the German Empire also in the most Favoured Nation Clause, which sounded so well. It really meant that a combination of our enemies worked to our disadvantage. Such catchwords must be got rid of. No war of this magnitude could be waged for three years without bringing vast revolutions.

The Russian revolution was because war had brought home to the people that the real power must be in the people who had to fight. What might replace the old regime was still in the lap of the Gods. However in some respects we might regret it he believed it was a necessary revolution. Let them not imagine there was no revolution going on in this Country and Empire. True, His Majesty was never more safely and securely fixed on the Throne than at present (cheers). Look at the almost automatic innovation of the Imperial War Cabinet. He found that the connecting link, binding the Dominions and the Mother country was that we had exactly the same ideals of liberty and progress. People talked wildly of Imperial federation without knowing what it means. There could be no Imperial federation if it were meant that an Act of Parliament was going to bind together the various units that made the Empire. He did not mind how loose was the system binding the Empire as long as it was the best working system. They must not try to tighten it artificially but let it work its own way. A meeting of the Council of Empire, as a Cabinet from year to year, to discuss Empire executive matters was the nearest approach at the moment we could get to the ideals at which we are aiming.

There was revolution in the Empire. At home the Franchise Bill was itself a great revolution. What had brought that about—the war and conscription. Millions of men were going over the parapet daily to face German guns. They were men who were preserving their property for those at home (cheers). They could not ask them to do all that without giving them a voice in the Government of the country. Thank God we have not required bloodshed and anarchy to do these things. Labour would never again be satisfied, nor ought to be satisfied to be in same condition as before the war. Labour, in the numbers it had sent out, was laying the foundations for our future progress, and maintaining our present liberties, and must have—he would not call it "reward," but its fair share in the body politic. They had to prove to labour that if its true interest were to expand and progress that could only be done on a sound solvent basis by the organisation of the unexploited resources of the Empire. Let us not talk to them too much of Imperialism, continued Sir Edward Carson. To some it rather idealises domination, to others it means aggression; to others it means exploitation of the people for the benefit of a few or of the capitalists. You must get rid of that out of their minds. You must rather teach them of Empire Union, and the greatness wherein each unit is a help and strength to other units. You must tell them that the patriotism inherent in them is best for their material progress. Just as by the building up of a business they get a freer flow for their energies and greater resources for higher wages, so by the expansion of the Empire and by exploiting of untapped fields of Empire, you will bring home to them that we have great material which can place them on a surer and better foundation of good terms and happiness at home than has ever fallen to the lot of the proletariat of any other race. (Cheers.)

THE PRICE OF MEAT.

London, May 25.

In the House of Commons, Mr. O. Betham stated that the meat price of a sheep would shortly be controlled.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE LATE RAJAH.

Memorial Service at St. Paul's.

London, May 24.

His Majesty the King was represented at an impressive memorial service to the late Rajah of Sarawak held in St. Paul's Cathedral, at which the Dowager Ranee, other relatives, Mr. Walter Long, many members of the Sarawak Government Service, and many other distinguished men connected with Sarawak were present.

MOTHERS.

"I hold no cause worth my son's life," one said—
And the two women with her as she spoke
Joined glances in a hush that neither broke,
So present was the memory of their dead.
And through their meeting eyes their souls drew near,
Linked by their sons, men who had held life dear
But laid it down for something dearer still.
One had wrought out with patient iron will
The riddle of a pestilence, and won;
Fighting on stricken, till his work was done.
For children of tomorrow. Far away
In shell-torn soil of France the other lay,
And in the letter that his mother read
Over and over, kneeling as to pray—
"I'm thinking God with all my heart to-day,
Whatever comes"—(that was the day he died)—
"I've done my bit to clear the road ahead."
In those two mothers, common pain of loss
Blossomed in stately flowers of holy pride.
What thoughts were here who silent stood beside
Her son the dreamer's cross?
—Amelia Josephine Barr, in the New York Outlook.

Passenger's Loss.

A Japanese passenger on the Tenyo Maru has laid a complaint before the Police that some persons gained an entry into his cabin and stole a gold watch and chain valued at \$103.

A Thief in the Night.

The Police have received a complaint from the occupant of 3, Hollywood Road, that some person last night entered the premises and stole jewellery, clothing and money to the value of \$350.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinematograph—9.15 p.m.

Monday, May 28.
Whit Monday—General Holiday.

Tuesday, May 29.
Meeting of the R.K. Chamber of Commerce; 4 p.m.

Wednesday, May 30.
"Star" Ferry Co's. Meeting; noon.

Girl Guides' Display, in St. Andrew's Church Hall, Kowloon; 5.30 p.m.

NOTICES.

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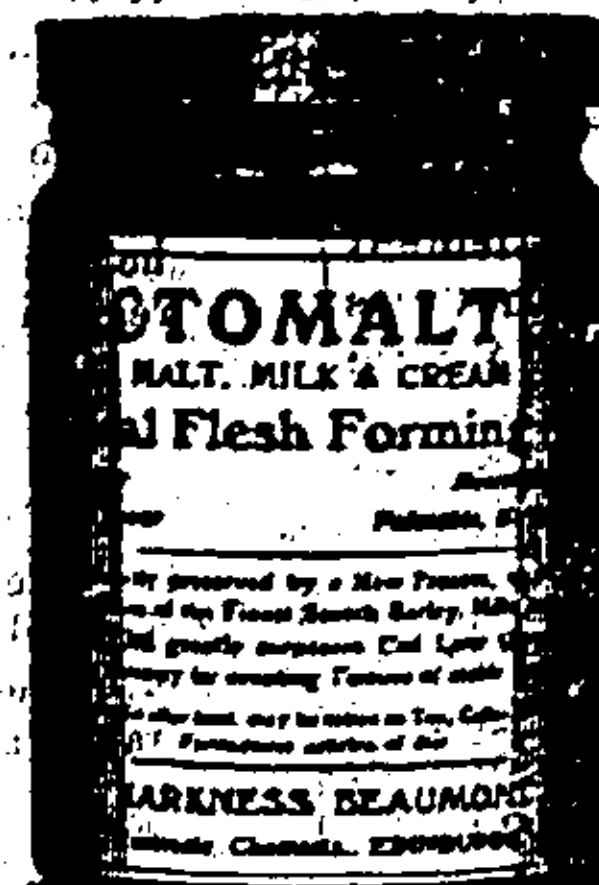
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GENERAL NEWS.

Extraordinary Weather in Simla.
Simla, April 22.—The extra-
ordinary weather at Simla has
continued for the last twenty-four
hours. There were perpetual
heavy rain storms all yesterday
and last night nine inches of
snow fell on Mahasu Ridge, 8,000
feet high. All the near hills
have received fresh and heavy
falls and the Ohali Hills, near
Masobra, is covered with snow.
To-day the weather has cleared
but the record, according to the
correspondent who, signing him-
self, "The Oldest Inhabitant,"
has recently written to the press
stating that in 1878 there was
snow in Simla on April 14, has
now been easily beaten.

Manchester University Roll

of Honour.
The authorities of Manchester
University have compiled a list
of past and present members of
the University who have served,
or are serving, with the naval
and military forces during the
war. In a preface Professor
Trot points out that the list does
not profess to be a complete roll
of all those associated with the
University who have, in one
capacity or another, done service
to the State in the hour of its
extreme need, but is limited to
those who have joined the naval
and military forces. It will, he
says, be readily understood that
such a list can neither be accurate
in all its details nor form a com-
plete record. It is hoped, there-
fore, that it will give opportunity
for its improvement in a later
edition. The list contains 1,762
names. One hundred and eighty-
one members of the University
have been killed or died, 22 are
prisoners or are missing, and 90
have been won distinctions.
Japanese Physicians Wanted in
Mexico.The Mexican Government has
granted permission for Japanese
physicians to practice in Mexico
irrespective of the class of school
where they qualified in Japan.
In other foreign countries only
those Japanese physicians who
have graduated from provincial
medical schools and schools of
higher grade are permitted to
practice. There are upwards of
35,000 Japanese immigrants in
Mexico. The Japanese physicians
are not only allowed to practice
among their own nationals, but
to treat native patients; so that
the field of their operations must
be very large. There are at pre-
sent only a very few Japanese
physicians in Mexico and it is
estimated that the services of at
least two hundred more could be
made use of with advantage. The
Foreign Office is prepared to
afford the utmost facilities to
doctors desirous of going to
Mexico. Before leaving Japan
they are required to secure cer-
tificates of identification from
the Home Department."Conscientious" Objectors.
London April 4.—The Home
Office has supplied the following
figures with regard to the con-
scientious objectors who have
accepted work under the Home
Office scheme:—655 of them are
engaged on agriculture; land re-
clamation, and forestry; 282 are
road-making, 140 are on water-
works, 95 are growing vegetables,
88 are cutting timber, 46 are
engaged on the manufacture of
artificial fertilisers, 41 are doing
clerical work, 28 are building in
connection with a farm colony for
disabled soldiers, 24 are quarry-
ing, and 25 are employed in
Messrs. Bibby and Son's oil cake
works in Liverpool. The re-
mainder, 674 in number, are fol-
lowing various occupations at the
work centres at Warwick and
Walsfield. It is just a year
since the first arrests of con-
scientious objectors under the
Military Service Act, and in that
time some 3,700 objectors, having
failed to obtain exemption on
conscientious grounds, or having
been unable to accept the con-
ditions on which such exemption
was offered them, have been
arrested and court-martialed. Of
these 1,500 at least 400 at the
present moment are in prison, or in
military custody. Some are ac-
cusing their "fourth year" of im-
prisonment.THE ALEXANDRA CAFE
Cannot be beaten. It is equalled
for Bread, Cakes, Confectionery
and meals with Wines & Liquors.

GENERAL NEWS.

Harry Thaw Found to be Insane Now.

Harry Kendall Thaw, slayer of Stanford White, has been adjudged a lunatic. Under the law he was taken to New York to stand trial on the charge of assaulting a Kansas youth who accompanied him on a recent western trip. He was indicted by the grand jury on the charge, but when found, with his wrists cut, in Philadelphia, the question of his sanity was again brought up. He is being placed in the State insane asylum. Since his escape from Mittenau and the subsequent legal proceedings he has been free.

From the Far East.

The further subscriptions to the Red Cross Fund include a gift of £350, being the second contribution for "Our Day," from the people of British North Borneo (per the British North Borneo War Relief Fund); £25 from the P.L.B.O.; £25 from the Anglo-Java Rubber and Produce Co., Ltd.; £25 from the Insulind (Sumatra) Rubber and Tobacco Estates, Ltd.; £20 from 41, from Kuching, Sarawak, per Mr. F. G. Day (former contribution); £20 from the British Association of Japan (Dec. contribution); £10, from Sir Charles Dudgeon (further contribution). The following sub-scriptions have been received by the Prisoners of War Central Fund:—Mr. W. L. Watkins (Singapore), £5; Ladies' Staff of Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, £28.81; ladies' staff of Yokohama Specie Bank, £2.

Allied Currency Preferred.

London, April 20.—The City Editor of the Times writes that the German consciousness of coming financial ruin is evidenced in a remarkable manner by a decree of the soi-disant Governor General of Poland substituting the new Polish mark for the rouble. The Polish mark will be the equivalent of the rouble being fixed at 2.16 marks. The German authorities are thus buying roubles at the rate of thirty-six marks per pound sterling, whereas the current rate is thirty marks. They thus exhibit their consciousness that worse times are approaching when German coin will not be negotiable in foreign markets, and that the Allied currencies are better worth holding. In so doing they are repeating their action in Belgium, where the Germans took possession of all the available Belgian currency.

British Resident of Seoul Decorated.

His Imperial Japanese Majesty has been pleased to decorate Mr. G. Russell Frampton, British resident in Seoul, with the Fourth Class Order of the Sacred Treasure. Mr. Frampton, the Seoul Press remarks, arrived in Chosen at the end of 1900 to assume the post of Head Master of the Korean Government English Language School which later on formed part of the Government Foreign Languages School, but when the latter institution was closed after the annexation he was at once appointed English teacher at the Japanese Middle School in Seoul. He retired from the Middle School this spring, and the Order just conferred on him is evidently a token of Imperial appreciation of the valuable services rendered by him in that school.

WINCARNIS.

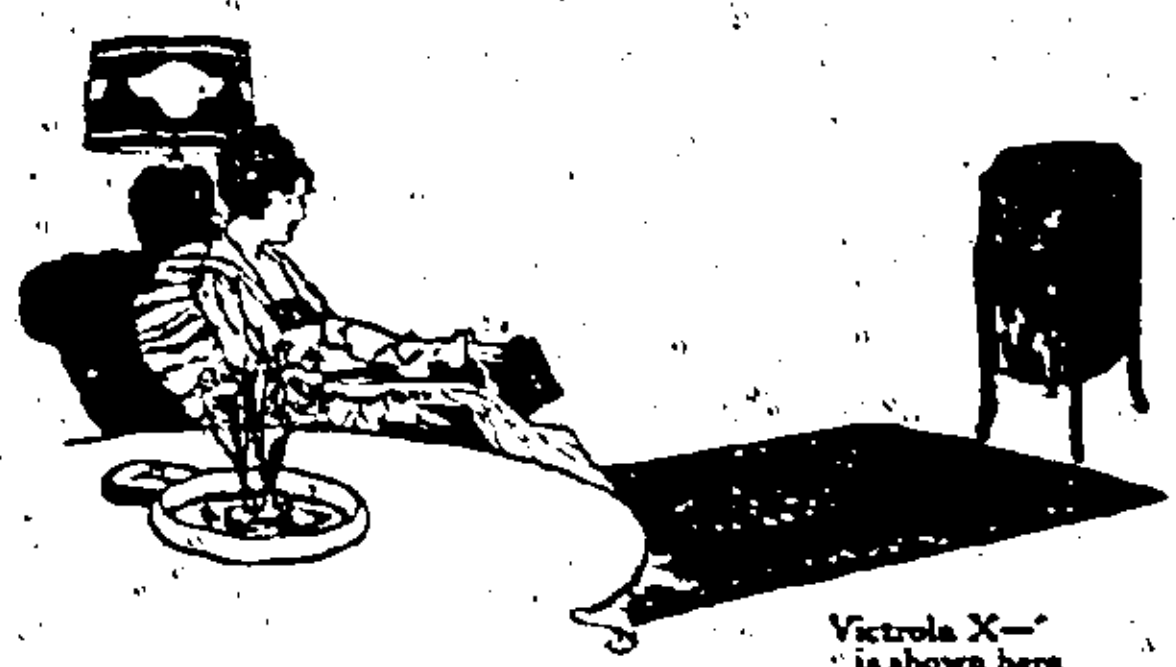
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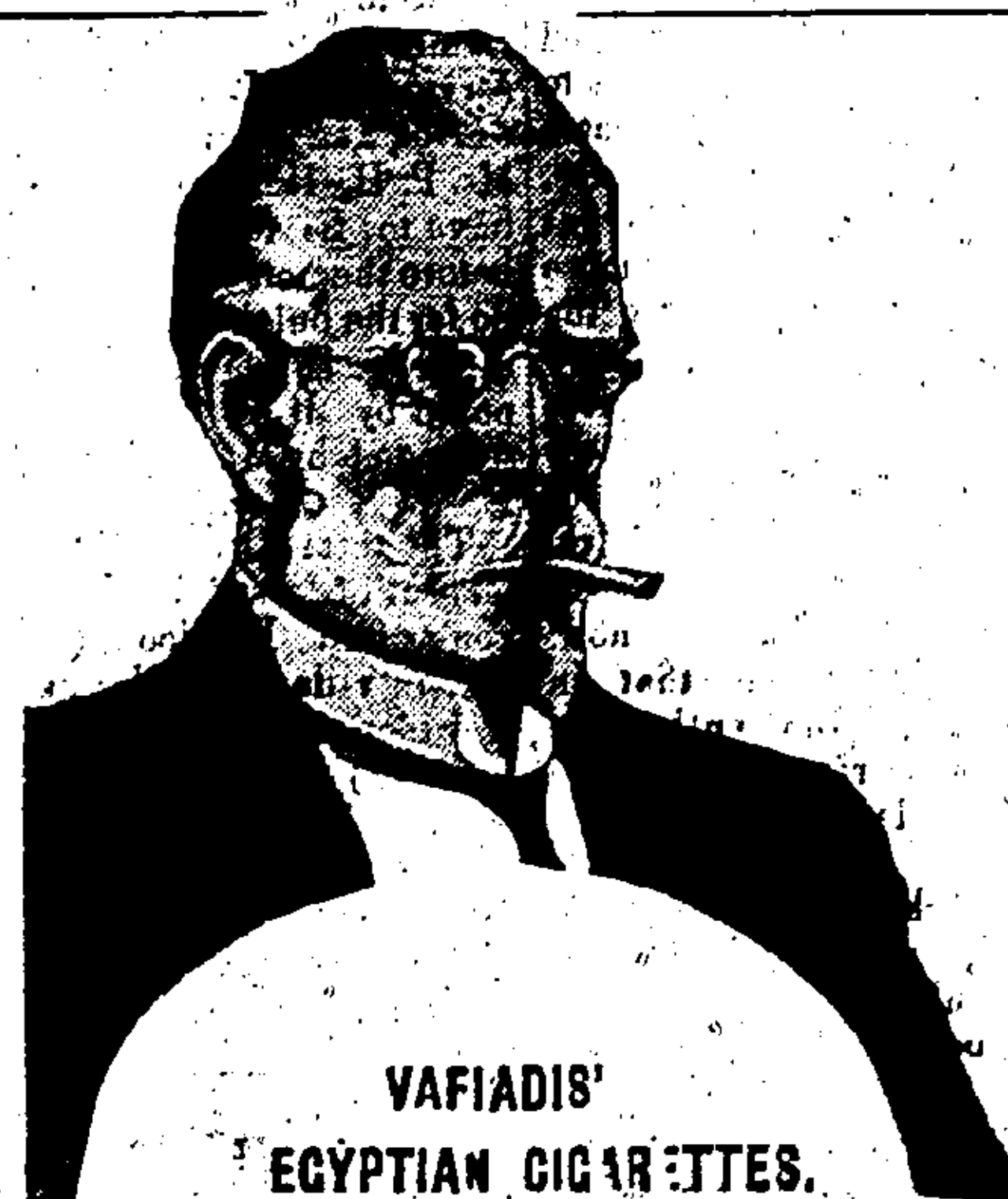
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three speed gear, speedometer
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"	10	.50
Extra Fine (Grand Format)	50	2.35
Nectar	50	2.35
Yildiz	25	1.10
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"	50	1.85
"	20	.75
Superline	100	2.40
"	50	1.20

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All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1917.

DR. SUN AND THE WAR.

There may be many things which San Yat-sen can do, but he still has to learn how to hold his tongue about matters which he does not understand. Not long ago he caused pretty general amusement by taking upon himself to write to the British Prime Minister to explain why it was not expedient for China to enter into the war. Inasmuch as Dr. Sun was not in any way authorized to speak on behalf of the people or the Government of China, and inasmuch as Mr. Lloyd George (or the particular secretary who chanced to open the letter) probably had never heard of Dr. Sun's existence, we may take it that the document in question caused no very great flutter in Entente breasts. People in the Far East laughed more than others because they know something about the worthy doctor, and for how little he stands in the life of China. And now these same people are laughing again; for behold, Dr. Sun, having failed to cause the British Constitution to totter, has now started to inflict his correspondence on Tuan Ki-shui who, till a very few days ago, was Premier of China. We give extracts from the agitator's ebullition in another column.

Dr. Sun's initial mistake is in thinking that, by such correspondence, he advances himself advantageously. He has made himself so notorious in the past by his follies and crazes and presumptions, that no amount of advertisement can benefit him. If we thought it could, the present article would never be published. Some day one of his admirers—for he still has a few—may be friendly enough to demonstrate to him that silence is the wisest course in his case. In his latest letter he gives us some superb examples of San Yat-sen's logic. There is little need to indicate them, for the reader cannot well help tumbling over them. But there is one gem on which one would fain linger a moment. It is as follows:—"Should our country be invaded by some aggressive nations after the war, we will have no friend to stand by us. I fear that, after joining the Alliance, foreigners will try to get control of our army and finance, under the pretext of our inability to improve bad conditions." Now what does he mean? These words, be it remembered, are uttered by a gentleman who, only about four years ago, was trying to prove that it would be perfectly possible, within a very short time, for the Chinese army to drive the Russian troops out of Mongolia, and who, a year or two later (if he is correctly reported by the vernacular and foreign papers) was anxious to prove that China would best flourish under Japanese overlordship. By the way, we believe he almost went so far as to offer the country to Japanese, regardless of the trifling fact that it was not his give.

Even to Dr. Sun's intelligence it should be apparent that, assuming the Allies to be as black as he seems to believe, China's wisest plan would be to make unto herself friends of the mammon of unrighteousness. If she were allied with the Entente, what "aggressive nations" does he suggest would be likely to invade her? We cannot, at the moment, call to mind any nation aggressive enough to go out of its way to seek trouble with a combination of Britain, France, Russia, the United States and Japan. The only country that occurs to us, after much brain-rundgelling, is Mexico, which seems to be equal to anything. Let Dr. Sun possess his soul in patience, and meddle with things that he understands. If foreigners desired "to get control of our army and finance, under the pretext of our inability to improve bad conditions," they would be far more likely to do so in face of China's refusal to ally herself with them, than after such alliance had taken place. The Entente has but one wish where China is concerned: and that is to see her fit herself to rank with itself in point of good government and good trade conditions, and she will best do this by showing herself as obliging as possible towards those who are willing and able to help her.

The New War Rate.

In his speech at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council, His Excellency the Governor threw some light on the circumstances which have given rise to the proposed increase in rates on tenements, the proceeds of which are to be paid into the Imperial War Chest. The first idea, apparently, was to institute an income tax, and we are not surprised that examination of the point showed such a step to be unfeasible. An attempt was made, also, to devise a scheme of self-assessment for the Chinese, whereby their promised million dollars might be secured; but this, as well as the matter of separately taxing the non-Chinese portion of the community, was found impossible of attainment. As a result, the Government was forced to adopt the alternative of raising the rates by a seven per cent. increase, which applies to Europeans and Chinese alike. On its purely financial side, we cannot see that the Government is likely to secure from this new impost nearly the sum that would have been produced had the Chinese themselves been able to devise a scheme for self-taxation. The latter had agreed to raise one million dollars yearly, and the Government was contemplating measures for taxing the non-Chinese "as a complement to the proposed Chinese gift." The result would thus have been very much over the sum promised by the Chinese. How much the new tax will yield, we do not know, but considering that the total amount secured last year from assessed taxes was something over \$1,800,000, on the same assessment the extra seven per cent. possibly may not bring in the sum which the Chinese community expressed its willingness to contribute. And, incidentally, it would be interesting to know what percentage of the additional rate will be borne by the Chinese, and what proportion by the Europeans. Are the Chinese to give their million dollars, and whether they are or are not, is any further taxation of Europeans contemplated? These are points which it would be well to have elucidated on the second reading of the Bill.

A Wise Provision.
We are gratified to see that the Government has been fit, in this matter, to take steps to guard against an evil to which we recently referred in commenting on this subject—the possible raising of rents to a point more than sufficient to cover the extra rate. A clause is to be added to the Bill requiring landlords to furnish particulars of increases in rent, and the reasons therefor, since the first day of the present month, and, what is even more important still, empowering the Government to review and vary these increases or other increases brought to its notice. These are very wise powers, but they are decidedly necessary. The profiteering landlord will have to walk warily now. We could only wish that in cases in which the authorities have cause to revise rents, the name of the landlord would be made public. That would be a further check upon the unscrupulous, who think that occupiers only exist for the purpose of being fleeced. This adopting of measures for the regulation of rents is only on a line with what is being done at home. It is comparable, too, with the power which the local Government now possesses—but seldom exercises—in regard to fixing the maximum prices for foodstuffs. Moreover, it is very wisely drawn, since it gives the authorities the right to look into "other increases" as well. Such a step was badly needed long ago, even before the war broke out, for it is notorious that rents in recent years have been soaring upwards without rhyme or reason—except for the landlord. It will now be for the occupier to keep a sharp check on the latter. If he is cheated, he will only have himself to blame.

Struck off.
It is notified that the name of the following Company has been struck off the Register:—The Loon Cheong Mutual Fire and Marine Insurance Company, Limited.

DAY BY DAY.

THE STRAIGHT THING PAYS AWAYS IN THE END. IN FRIENDSHIP, IN BUSINESS, IN POLITICS, IN EVERY CONCEIVABLE AVENUE AND PHASE OF LIFE.—Ralph Waldo Trine.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the birthday of Arnold Bennett, the novelist, who was born in 1867.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 4.11/6d.

Sanitary Board.
The business on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting of the Sanitary Board is largely of a formal character.

Kailan Output.
The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending May 12 amounted to 67,291 tons, and the sales during the period to 50,232 tons.

The New Territories.
In the Northern District of the New Territories there was an unprecedented demand for land in 1916, the revenue from this source far exceeding that of all previous years.

Interim Dividend.
Messrs. Benjamin and Potts advise us that the Anglo-Java Estates, Limited, has declared a first interim dividend of 1/6d. Transfer Books will be closed from the 5th to the 11th June, both days inclusive.

The Bijou Theatre.
Commencing to-night, the Bijou Theatre is screening the first and second episodes of the "Iron Claw," a magnificent serial in 20 episodes. Picture lovers should not miss the opportunity of seeing this wonderful Pathe's production.

Stamp Duty.
The amount of stamp duty paid in Hongkong on registered documents exclusive of probates and letters of administration during 1916 amounted to \$122,742.38. The amount of stamp duty on probates and letters of administration registered amounted to \$288,954.15.

Alice Memorial Hospital.
The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the Funds of the Hospital:—Mrs. Li Tim To, \$50; Lowe, Bingham and Matthews, \$50; Eastern Extension Telegraph Co., \$50.

Chamber of Commerce.
Members of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce are to meet on Tuesday afternoon to nominate a representative to serve on the Legislative Council during the absence of the Hon. Mr. P. H. Helyar. Nominations have to be in forty-eight hours before the holding of the meeting. So far the only member nominated in Mr. S. H. Dodwell, who is proposed by Mr. G. T. Edkins and seconded by Mr. N. J. Sibb.

Crown Rent.
The total Crown rent due in respect of leased lands in Hongkong and Kowloon (excluding certain villages in Hongkong and Kowloon entered in the village rent roll) amounted for the year ending December 25, 1916, to \$410,335.94 a decrease of \$13,022.29 on the previous year, which was due mainly to the reduction of rents for quaires owing to bad times. The total amount due in respect of leased lands in the villages in Hongkong and Kowloon appearing in the village rent roll for the year ending September 30 was \$3,534.60 a decrease of \$50.40 on the previous year.

Dr. Low's Return.
A correspondent writes:—We are glad to welcome back to the Colony one of our old students in the person of Dr. Low Sai San, from London. He is the son of the late Mr. Low Mei Fang, the famous revolutionary leader who fell in the great Revolution of 1911, and Mrs. Low of Canton. Dr. Low has had great medical experience in England, having just graduated M. D. (Hons.) of London University. He is also Fellow R. C. P. (London) and obtained the D. T. M. (Hons.) degree from the London School of Tropical Medicine. Dr. Low intends making his practice in Hongkong, and then when opportunity occurs to serve China. To him we tender our best congratulations on his "various success."

DR. SUN ON THE SITUATION.

More Amateur Advice.

In reply to the letter of General Tsao Ki-bui consulting him on the question of the Declaration of War upon Germany, Dr. Sun has given a long reply, says the *Peking Daily News*, of which the following is a summary:—

"Since my return to the country at the time of the re-constitution of the Republic, I have been devoting my whole energy to the development of industry and commerce of the nation. Although many raw ones have been received to the effect that inducements were offered to China to join the war, I did not believe that you, being a most able and far-sighted statesman would rashly decide to declare war with a powerful nation like Germany. When the news of the rupture was received by me I at once telegraphed in my private capacity to the Prime Minister of Great Britain pointing out to him the disadvantage of forcing China to take part in the war, and the British authorities positively denied that they ever urged his to join the war. Japanese friends have also assured me that they did not coerce China, although they would welcome her into the Alliance. As it was not our advantage to join, nor would it improve the situation of the Entente, I had full faith that you would never favour a declaration of war upon Germany."

"However, I was surprised to learn from your delegate that you would declare war, which you thought was the only course for China to adopt. I am sorry that I cannot endorse your views. The United States has set apart billions of dollars for the supply of the Allied Army, and is going to send troops and fleets over to Europe to take part in the war. We have no money, neither an adequate army nor a fleet, but on the contrary we have to look to the United States for loans. This instead of rendering any assistance to the Allied cause we would only make it more inconvenient for them. China is weak, therefore she has to discharge the obligations of a weak State. The Entente Powers are short of funds, and is it right for us to divide their resources? We have asked for the postponement of the payment of the Boxer Indemnities, and are trying to raise the Customs tariff at a time when they are badly in need of financial assistance. Therefore it is below our dignity to join the War for gain under the pretext of upholding humanity, at the expense of the Allies. Moreover, as our motive is to gain advantages, we will not be respected by the Allies. Should our country be invaded by some aggressive nations after the war, we will have no friend to stand by us. I fear that after joining the Alliance, foreigners will try to get control of our Army and Finance under the pretext of our inability to improve bad conditions."

"Your delegate told me that your motive for declaring war is to save China from manifold troubles and to place the Republic on a sound foundation. A false step may lead to all kinds of disasters. If we should go to war, there is no doubt that fresh difficulties will arise, and in all probability foreigners will soon interfere with our internal administration. What will become of our condition then? Had we not taken the first step, we would never have to experience the present difficulties, and if we should take no further step now, we will have no cause of regret in the future. If we should imitate the action of other nations, our end will be near, and no one will be able to prevent the disaster."

"As a citizen of the Republic I declare that my true conviction is against war, and if you should take no further step, I will do all I can to assist you to bridge over the difficulty of the time, resulting from the declaration of the rupture. I can never forget the time when I proposed the introduction of the Republic for China, you and other leaders in the North supported my schemes. If you should accept my advice not to declare war upon Germany, I will at once proceed to the Capital offering you my services."

1892.

HONGKONG TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

(Compiled from the "Hongkong Telegraph" files for the week ending May 26, 1892.)

The Dollar.

May 26.—"The rate of the dollar on demand to-day is 2/3 3/4."

The "Telegraph" on the Warpath.

May 21.—"It would be interesting to know why information of the inquiry held at Chung-how by the Kowloon Commissioner of Chinese Customs into the alleged seizure of two junks in British waters by a Customs launch, and at which the Harbour Master and Registrar General represented the Hongkong Government, was not sent to the local press in order that the proceedings, so interesting to the Hongkong commercial community should be made public. And further, we should like to be informed on what ground it was deemed advisable to send two British representatives to an informal and utterly illegal inquiry, held in a Chinese fishing village, presided over by an English Commissioner of Chinese Customs who is not in any sense a recognised Chinese judicial officer, on a practical outrage committed in British waters! The next thing we shall know, unless decisive steps are at once taken to stop this nonsense, will be the Supreme Court of Hongkong handed over to the Chinese Customs, with the Hon. 'Alphabet' O'Brien as chief Celestial cook and bottle-washer. The 'Telegraph' will take to the warpath on this important issue without further delay."

The Kaiser's Affection for Aquatic Sports.

May 21.—"It was Professor Max Muller who received the telegram from the German Emperor conveying his hearty congratulation to the Oxford crew on their victory in the Inter-Varsity boat race. The telegram, with the exception of the concluding sentence, was in German, and read as follows:—"By right of my old, never failing friendship for beautiful Oxford and her brave sons, and I again beg you to be the interpreter of my heartiest congratulations to the crew on winning the boat race. So enthusiastic a lover of aquatic sports (Submarine rising, for instance, —Ed. H. K. T.) as I am, I must always rejoice when young men use and cultivate their strength in so rational a way." Then in English: "It was well done from first to last. Wilhelm." We are beginning to think that the fiery and unquenchable Kaiser has a tile loose somewhere, and badly wants to be carefully looked after."

Popularity of a Shameen German.

May 24.—"My house is my castle," shouted a Teutonic resident on Shameen the other day, while his habitation was being bombarded with brick bats at 2 a.m. by the young and festive portion of European community. "Man the walls, lower the portcullis and load my blunderbuss!" were the firm orders heard within the ancient structure, followed by the rattle of preparations for defence. Bang! bang! bang! swake the peaceful citizens in the early hours of the morning. The storming party withdrew in good order, and again all was still; the defence was complete."

Waking Up.

May 25.—"The Government, having at last realised that a cable now connects Gap Rock with Hongkong has decided to get somebody to work it."

Three telegraph clerks, for Gap Rock, Cape D'Aguiar, and the Post Office are wanted by Tuesday next."

Well-Intentioned.

May 25.—"The Hon. W. M. Goodman is going home on leave in about a month. He deserves a rest. He reminds one of Mark Twain's ant, which uses all the hours that Heaven sends in rushing about, raving and tearing; and blundering and breaking its seek with hard work, over something that isn't the least use in the world, and could be negotiated with a hundredth part of the effort by anybody with sense. Yee, he has worked hard, with the best intentions, and he ought to take a rest."

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Freemasons will be interested in a book by Mr. R. B. Bennett, entitled "A Story of an Ancient Lodge." It contains a summary of Masonic history from earliest times to the present day, and interesting extracts from the minutes of Lodge 169, which include many years prior to the union of the Grand Lodges in 1813. The volume has over fifty illustrations, including portraits of the Duke of Connaught, Lord Ampthill, Mr. Thomas F. Halsey, and Sir Edward Leitchworth. The cover is a reproduction of the emblematical tooling on a 1585 Bible. All profits on the sales go to the Royal Masonic Boys and Girls' Schools and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

Among the multitude of changes which the war has brought about is the increase of smoking among women and girls in public, say the *Globe*. It is no uncommon sight in some suburbs to see members of the once weaker sex enjoying a cigarette as they leave business, but the fair companion of an officer did attract some notice when, in broad daylight, she matched her military escort's cigar with one of her own. What is more, she seemed quite used to the stronger weed, and to enjoy it. How long will it be before a well-seasoned briar will form part of the modern woman's equipment?

The *Morning Advertiser*, which has changed its size and its price, owed its old nick name of "Gin and Gospel" to the peculiarities of a former editor, James Grant, who combined the defence of "the Trade" and a keen interest in the prize ring with adherence to the strictest tenets of Scottish Presbyterianism. He afforded the wits much sport by writing a pious little volume, "The Hymns of Heaven," in which he gave detailed descriptions of the songs favoured in Paradise, even distinguishing between those sung by men, by angels, and by angels and men in chorus!

That revolutions are not run without money we are reminded, says the *L. and C. Express*, by San Yat-sen's application to the Chinese Government for \$2,000,000, which he alleges he borrowed for the purpose of the late revolution. The coolness of the request is on a par with the late President Kruger's claim for \$1,000,000 from the British Government as moral damages. We are not surprised the Chinese Government has turned down Dr. Sun's financial project with the intimation that he had no official standing or authority to raise such loans.

The Danish West Indies, recently purchased by America, are hardly so good a bargain as Louisiana, which was purchased in 1803 for, roughly, the same sum—\$5,000,000. The area transferred was not the whole of the present State, but an area of about a million square miles; and the cost was about twopenny an acre. Even for the Galapagos Islands the United States offered \$7,000,000 a few years ago, and was refused. One of the best bargains of the kind was when M. Menier, of chocolate fame, bought Antioch, at the mouth of the St. Lawrence—an island larger than Wales—for £25,000.

One sometimes gets a surprise (writes a correspondent to a Home paper) even after seven consecutive months on the Somme front. I got one a day or two ago. Two stretcher-bearers were struggling along over the frosty ground with a stretcher containing a wounded soldier. Immediately after they passed "Fritz" began to "whizzbang" the trench boards over which they were travelling, and in a few minutes a man was seen to be coming back with great haste. When he came up to us he said, "Two of your stretcher-bearers have just been wounded down there." The company commander (who had not seen them pass) said: "Two of our stretcher-bearers? What were they doing down there at this time?" "They were carrying me on," replied the messenger!

THE PORT OF HONGKONG.

Harbour Master's Report for Last Year.

From the report of the Harbour Master of Hongkong for 1916 we take the following:—

Shipping.
The total of the shipping entering and clearing at ports in the Colony during the year 1916 amounted to 642,794 vessels, of 36,381,457 tons, which, compared with the figures for 1915, shows an increase of 111,192 vessels, with an increase of 2,496,538 tons. Of the above, 48,350 vessels of 22,308,311 tons were engaged in foreign trade, as compared with 50,148 vessels of 22,515,023 tons in 1915. The movements of fishing junks are not included in the above figures.

Of vessels of European construction, 3,760 ocean steamers, 1 sailing ship, 4,669 river steamers, and 3,206 steam launches entered during the year, giving a daily average entry of 31.9 ships, as compared with 31.6 in 1915, and 32.4 in 1914.

The average tonnage of individual ocean vessels entering the port has decreased from 2,519.9 tons to 2,238.9 tons. That of British ships has decreased from 2,625 tons to 2,559.7 tons, while that of foreign ships has also decreased from 2,441.2 tons to 2,032.2 tons. During the past 20 years, the average tonnage of ocean-going vessels has increased from 1,319 tons to 1,820 tons.

The average tonnage of individual river steamers entering during the year has decreased from 486.9 tons to 453.0 tons. That of British river steamers has decreased from 519.3 tons to 511.2 tons, and that of foreign river steamers has decreased from 414.4 tons to 364 tons.

There is a decrease in British ocean-going shipping of 257 ships, or 7.4 per cent., and a decrease of 489,834 tons, or 7.1 per cent. This is due to several of the coasting steamers having been chartered by the Government, and the withdrawal of P. & O. Intermediate Steamers.

British river steamers have increased by 371 ships and 124,198 tons, or 5.2 per cent. in numbers and 2.5 per cent. in tonnage which is due to the fact that two steamers were added to the West River trade.

Foreign ocean-going vessels have increased by 124 ships or 3.3 per cent., but have decreased by 183,673 tons or 2.4 per cent. This is explained by the increase in Japanese and Chinese ships of smaller tonnage.

Foreign river steamers show an increase of 398 ships and 111,050 tons, or 17.3 per cent. in numbers and 1.7 per cent. in tonnage. This is due to several steamers which were previously on the Canton-West River trade having been placed on the Hongkong-West River trade carrying rice from July to December.

In steamships not exceeding 60 tons, employed in foreign trade, a decrease of 372 ships and 10,160 tons, or 5.7 per cent. in numbers and 7.6 per cent. in tonnage is shown. The decrease is most noticeable in launches trading to Macao, and may be put down to one of the launches being replaced by a vessel of over 60 tons.

Junks in foreign trade show a large decrease of 2,050 junks or 8.2 per cent., but an increase of 247,916 tons or 7.7 per cent. The decrease appears during the months of July, August and September, in which months there was considerable unrest in the Canton delta.

In local trade, increases are shown in both steam launches and junks. Steam launches show an increase of 112,050 ships and 2,609,970 tons, or 20 per cent. in numbers and 20.6 per cent. in tonnage which is explained by an increase in number of launches plying in the harbour and more trips having been made. Junks show an increase of 940 vessels and 93,280 tons or 2.6 per cent. in numbers and 6.4 per cent. in tonnage. This can only be ascribed to the better control of native craft, they having to report themselves at this office in order to obtain a permit to pass outward through the Examination Service.

The total number of individual ocean-going vessels of Euro-

pean construction during 1917 was 717 of which 281 were British and 436 were foreign. In 1915 the corresponding figures were 724, 310 British and 414 foreign. These 717 ships measured 1,605,248 tons. They entered 3,761 times and gave a collective tonnage of 6,855,164 tons. Those 7 fewer ships entered 63 fewer times, and gave a collective tonnage reduced by 326,535 tons, an average of 5,183.2 tons per entry. The 281 British ships carried 2,519 British officers and 56 foreign officers, the latter consisting of 19 Norwegian, 13 American, 11 Danish, 5 Swedish, 4 Japanese, 2 Dutch, and 2 Belgian. Thus, the proportion of foreign officers in British ships was 2.21 per cent. comprising 7 nationalities, an increase of 1.31 per cent. with a decrease in number of officers and of ships. The 436 foreign ships carried 3,252 officers, of whom 69 were British. Thus, 2.12 per cent. of the officers serving in foreign ships were of British nationality, with an increase in number of officers and of ships.

Revenue and Expenditure.
The gross revenue collected by the Harbour Department during the year was \$649,732.24 as against \$551,237.90 collected in the previous year, showing an increase of \$98,494.34 or 15.1 per cent.

The principal increases are under boat licences \$381,184; junk licences \$2,037.34; Engagement and discharge of seamen \$1,122.20; examination of masters, etc. \$1,160; Fees for use of Government buoys \$44,089.27, (this is due to the taking over by the Government of all the hitherto privately owned buoys); Medical examination of emigrants \$26,655.50; official signature \$3,914 (due to large number of permits issued to native craft to be employed for working cargo at night under the war time traffic regulations); and Sunday cargo working permits \$30,750.

The principal decreases are under Light Dues Special Assessment \$5,562.71 (due to lack of tonnage); Marine Court fines \$5,152.24; gunpowder storage \$3,092.55; and survey of steamships \$782.29.

The Expenditure of the Harbour Department for 1916 was \$165,295.31 as against \$166,465.44 expended in 1915, showing a decrease of \$1,169.13 which is due to savings in salaries on account of the office being short since August of the Assistant Harbour Master, a junk inspector, and the reduction in the light-house staff by 2 light house keepers retiring on pension, and the substitution of unwatched Aga lights at Cape Collinson and Ma Wan. Also a sum of \$167,851.35 was expended on taking over by the Government of all the hitherto privately owned buoys and moorings, and the sums of \$1,325.39 and \$1,430.89 were expended on installation of unwatched Aga lights at Cape Collinson and Ma Wan light-houses respectively. A further sum of \$23,250 was expended on repairing and overhauling the steam tender Stanley, and a sum of \$4,000 on purchasing the motor launch "H.D. 5".

Steam-launches.
On the 31st December, 1916, there were 356 steam-launches (including motor boats) employed in the Harbour. Of these, 191 were licensed for the conveyance of passengers, etc., 121 were privately owned, 22 were the property of the Colonial Government and 22 belonged to the Imperial Government, comprising 4 Military and 18 Naval.

Emigration and Immigration.
One hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty-three (117,653) emigrants left Hongkong for various places during the year 1916, (68,275 in 1915). Of these, 86,739 were carried in British ships and 30,914 in foreign ships. Seventy-two thousand four hundred and five (72,405) returning emigrants were reported to have been brought to Hongkong from the several places to which they had emigrated either from this Colony or from Coast Ports, as against 199,753 in 1915. Of these, 45,623 arrived in British ships and 26,782 in foreign ships.

Marine Magistrate's Court.
Three hundred and forty-one (341) cases were heard in the Marine Magistrate's Court, (470 in 1915). Being under way during prohibited hours without permits,

FOOD PRICES.

Can No Longer be Fixed.

The Gazette contains a revised list of the maximum prices for which articles of food may be sold by retail, but at the end thereof it is notified that, in view of the prohibition of the export of certain foodstuffs from the United Kingdom, the prices of these articles can no longer be fixed. If, however, any consumer considers that he has been overcharged he may make representations to that effect to the Secretary of the Food Committee, Sanitary Board Officer, for investigation.

making fast to ships whilst under way without permission, Passing through the Yaumati typhoon shelter at an excessive speed, boarding ships without permission, dredging without permit, and carrying passengers in excess, were the principal offences.

Sunday Cargo Working.
There were 400 permits issued during the year under Ordinance 1 of 1891, as compared with 678 in 1915. Of these 259 were not used as the ships did not arrive up to time, and in some cases it was found unnecessary to work cargo on the Sunday. The Revenue collected under this head amounted to \$116,000 as against \$85,250 in 1915. The increase is due to the shortage of tonnage and the anxiety of ship owners to get their ships away from port as soon as possible.

Buoys.
In April the Government finally took over all the Merchant buoys in the harbour. These buoys have been classified as A, B, and C buoys and related to suit trade conditions of the Port. Seven have been placed in the Coal anchorage at Wanchoi, and twelve in the rice anchorage at West Point, for the convenience of these trades. In all there are now forty-five (45) buoys. The buoy scheme is now in full working order and the revenue for the year amounted to \$51,916.00 from this source. I think I may add that the scheme is generally much appreciated by the shipping, and considerably improves the facilities and conveniences of the Port.

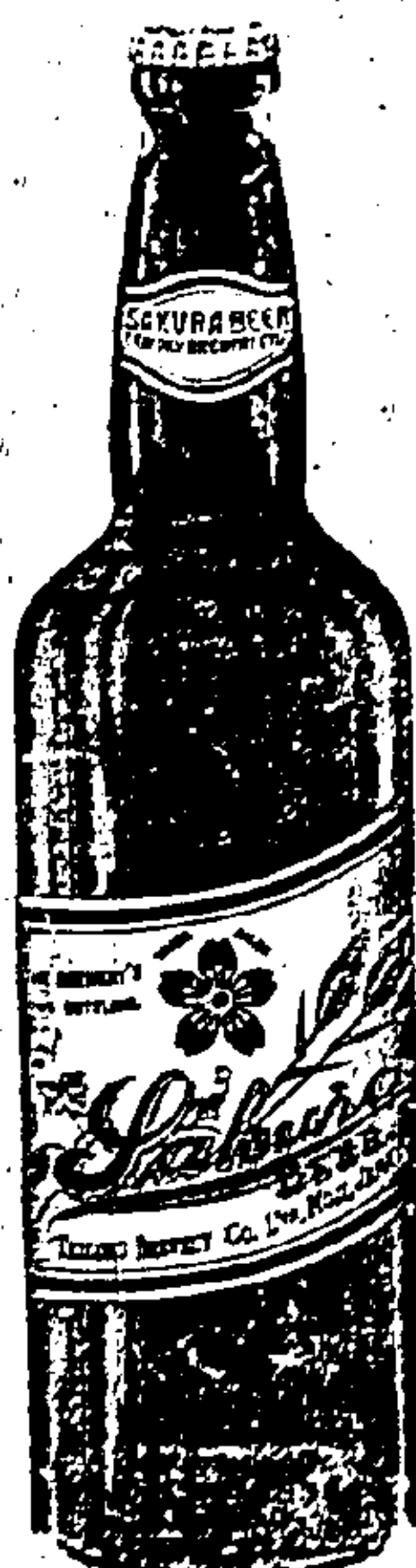
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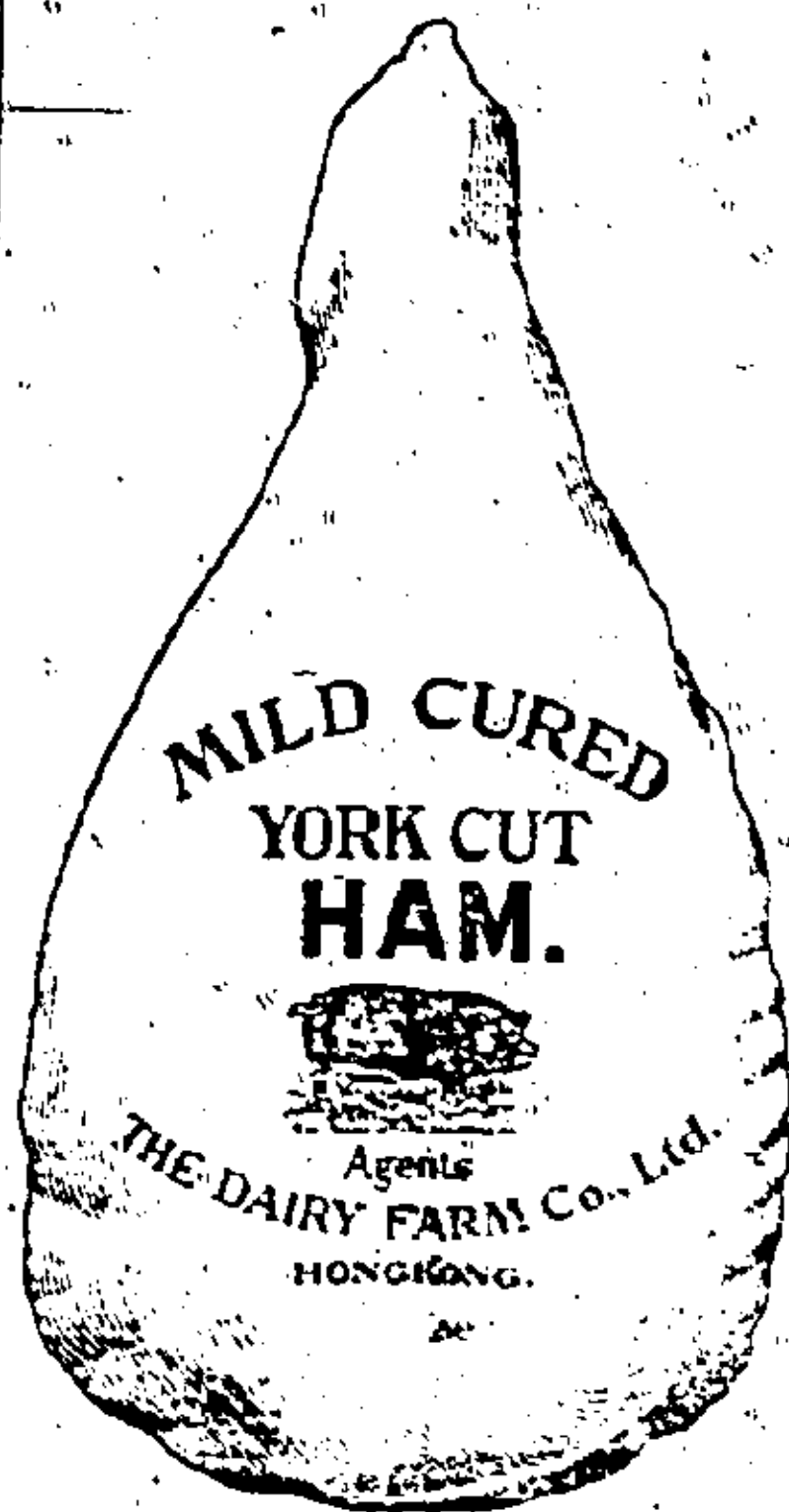
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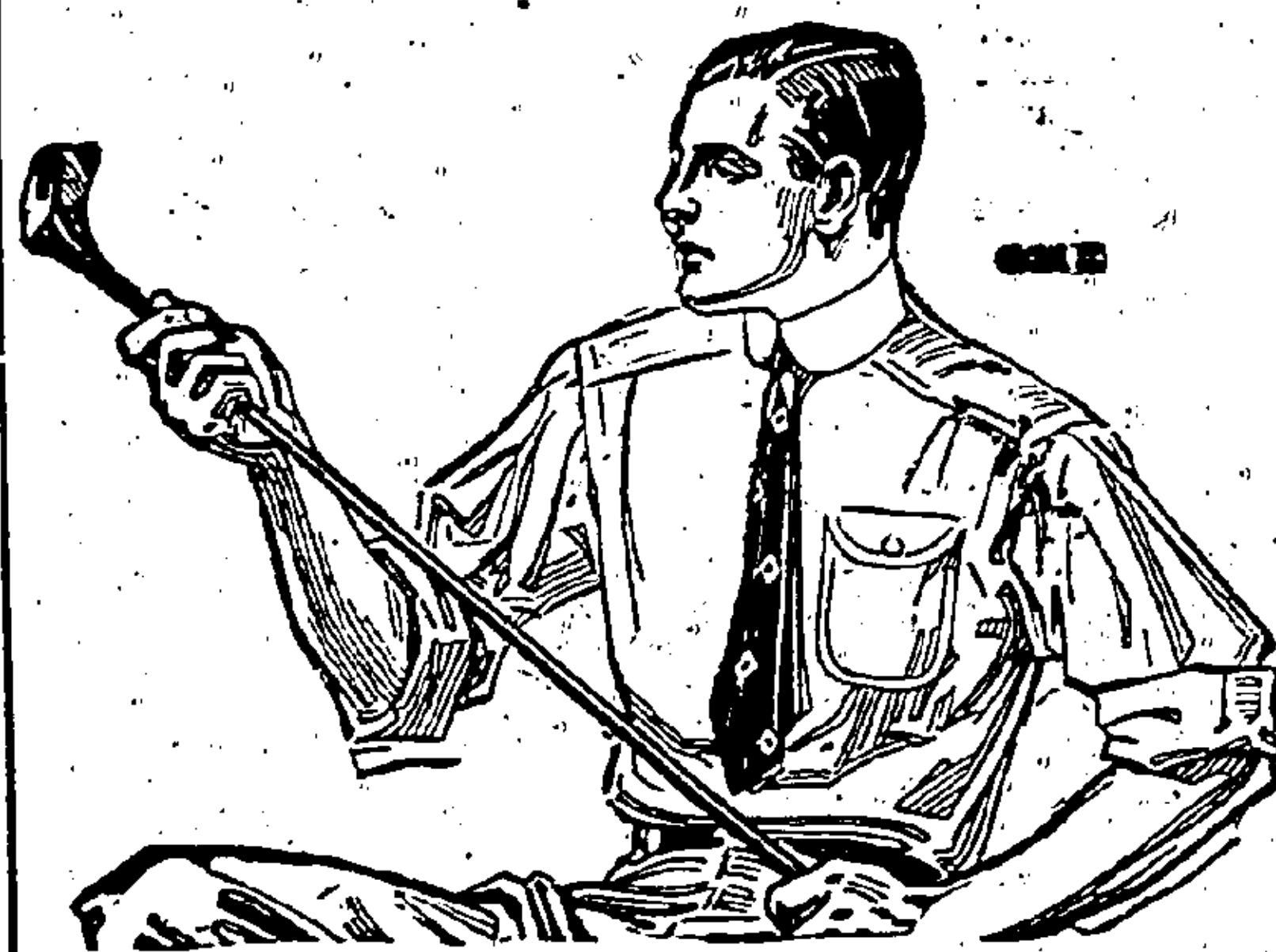
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There is an Arrow shirt for every man everywhere. A shirt that is as well made as fifty years experience can suggest.



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PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on
THURSDAY, the 31st May, 1917,

commencing at 11 a.m., at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,
450 dozen tablets Camphor and Arnica Soap.
72 dozen tablets Sulphur Soap.
450 dozen tablets Fancy Soaps.
12 dozen bottles Vitafer.

Also
Lysol, Cotton's Tobacco etc., On view from Wednesday, the 30th inst.
Catalogues will be issued.
Terms:—Cash on delivery.
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Made of soft White Duck with white Vulcanized Rubber Soles, light in weight and durable.

An attractive and comfortable Shoe for Tennis, Yachting, Launch parties and Seashore wear.

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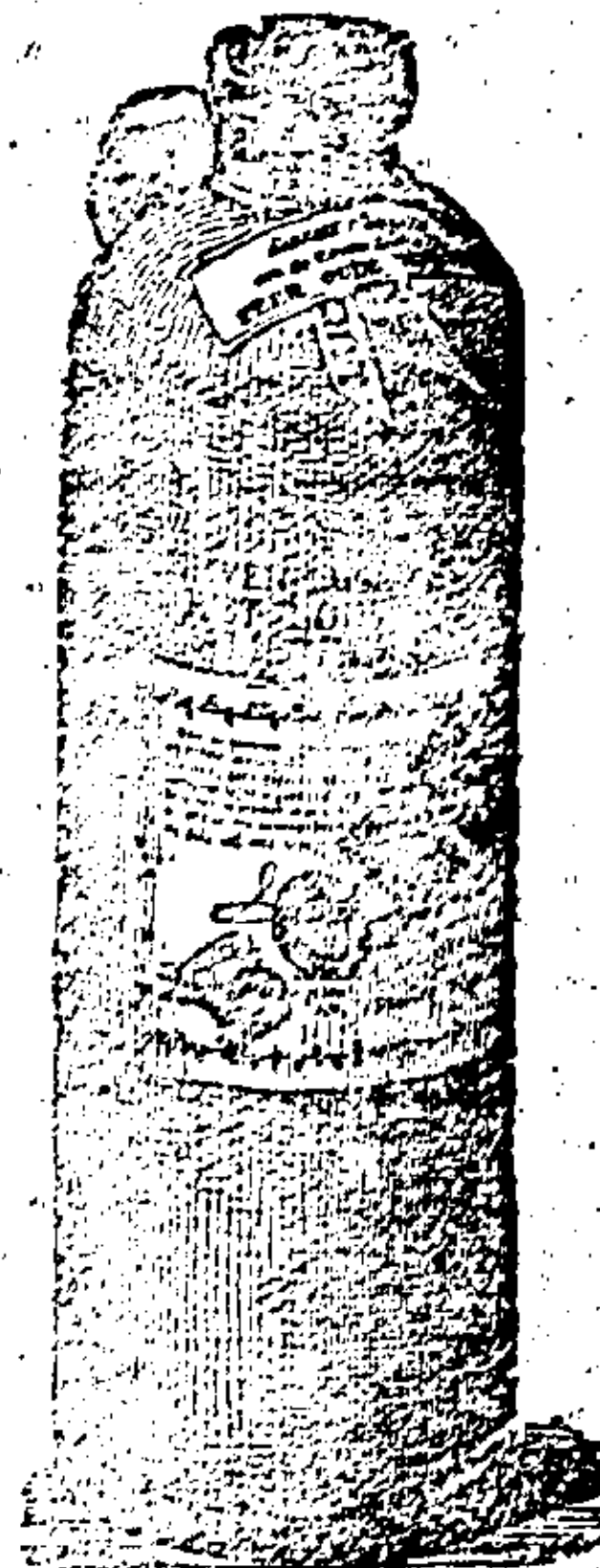
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Destination.	Steamers.	Sailing Date
LONDON via Singa- pore, Malacca, Penang, Colombo, Delagoa Bay, Cape Town, Madeira...		
VICTORIA, B.C. & SEATTLE via Keel- ung, S'hai, Moji, Kobe, Yokkaichi, Shimizu & Yoko- hama...	Kamakura Maru Capt. Shirai T. 12,500 Shidzuka Maru Capt. Noma T. 12,500	FRI. 8th June, at noon. WED. 20th June, at noon.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...		
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Mishima Maru Capt. Nishimura T. 16,000	TUES. 5th June, at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Asahi Maru Capt. Kozaka T. 8,000	TUESDAY, 5th June.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Ssuwa Maru Capt. Sekine T. 21,000	MON. 18th June, at 11 a.m.
NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama...	Nikko Maru Capt. Takeda T. 9,600	FRI. 15th June, at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Moji and Kobe...	Penang Maru Capt. Kishibiki T. 10,000	SATURDAY, 25th June.
SHANGHAI, Moji and Kobe...	Totomi Maru Capt. Kamada T. 8,000	THURSDAY, 7th June.
SHANGHAI, Moji and Kobe...	Rangoon Maru Capt. Kobayashi T. 8,000	SATURDAY, 9th June.
Kobe and Yoko- hama...	Benten Maru Capt. Tomita T. 8,000	WEDNESDAY, 30th May.
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Steamer.	Displacement	Leave Hongkong
Nippon Maru	11,000 - 15 knots	12th June.
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Korea Maru	18,000 - 18 knots	17th July.
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1st class to London G\$348. (£71.10.0), return G\$619. (£122).		
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For	Steamers.	To Sail.
SWATOW & SINGAPORE	Hupoh	26th May at 10 a.m.
TIENTSIN	Kwelin	27th May at daylight.
SHANGHAI	Anhui	27th May at daylight.
SHANGHAI	Sunning	29th May at 4 p.m.
MANILA, CEBU & ILOILO	Shantung	30th May at noon.
TIENTSIN via WEIHAIWEI	Kueichow	31st May at noon.
SHANGHAI	Shantung	31st May at 4 p.m.

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MANILA LINE—Twin Screw Steamers "Chinba," "Taming,"

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Tjipanas ... in port 26th May AMOY AND

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The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and

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Regular Service of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having

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FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FUOCHOW AND RETURN.

(Occupying 2 to 10 days.)

Steamships. Captain Leaving.

Haitan ... A. E. Hodgins ... FRI. 1st June, at noon.

Halhong ... J. W. Evans ... TUES. 5th June, at noon.

FOR SWATOW.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near

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For	Steamship	On
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MANILA ... Taisang Sat. 26th May at 3 p.m.

SHANGHAI ... Wosang Sun. 27th May at daylight.

SHANGHAI ... Esang Wed. 30th May at daylight.

HAIPHONG ... Taksang Wed. 30th May at 7 a.m.

HAIPHONG via Hoihow Loksang Thur. 31st May at 7 a.m.

MANILA ... Yuensang Sat. 2nd June at 3 p.m.

TIENTSIN ... Chipshing Sun. 3rd June at daylight.

CALCUTTA LINE.—Three sailings per month from Hongkong to Calcutta calling at Singapore and

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These steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and

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HANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes

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dation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.

Through Balaing are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.

MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accom-

modation, sailings from both ports every Saturday.

HAIPHONG LINE.—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at Hoihow when

industrial offers.

BORNEO LINE.—Two sailings per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by steamers having up-to

date accommodation for passengers.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kuching, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Labud Date.

TIENTSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin

calling at Weihaiwei and Chiao.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

French Port Congestion.

The "War Bulletin" of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris says:—Active steps are being taken by us with reference to the transport delays in French ports, and in some individual cases our members have received satisfaction. We have now elaborated a scheme by which we hope all sources of complaint will have disappeared. Members are requested to send us full particulars of all consignments which have been held up in the ports for more than, say, six weeks.

Interesting Prize Court Case.

Recently Mr. Bruce Thomas, instructed by the Solicitor to the Treasury, applied for condemnation of 26 bales of silk goods consigned by Messrs. J. Wassermann and Co., of New York, to Mr. Eskil Artberg per the steamship Jemtland, and of 24 bales of bamboo consigned by Messrs. Samuel, Samuel and Co., of Kobe, Japan, to Messrs. B. Dieden and Co., per s.s. Canton. Mr. Bruce Thomas said the Jemtland was a Swedish vessel which sailed from New York to Gothenburg in December, 1915, and was seized on Dec. 20, with a portion of the cargo, which included the 26 bales of silk. It was alleged that this silk was being sent to Mr. Eskil Artberg to be forwarded to Messrs. O. Bergmann and Co., of Hamburg. The goods had left Yokohama earlier in the year, and had been sent to San Francisco and thence overland to New York, where they were re-labelled by Messrs. J. Wassermann and Co., and despatched to Mr. Eskil Artberg. Silk was not contraband when these consignments were seized, and neither was the bamboo which was shipped on the Canton for Messrs. B. Dieden and Co., via Rotterdam. The bamboo had been sold, and realised £115 17s. 3d. The President, Sir Francis Evans, in giving judgment, said:—As to the 26 cases of silk on the Jemtland, it is quite clear that Mr. Eskil Artberg was only acting as an intermediary between the Yokohama house of Messrs. O. Bergmann and Co., and the Hamburg house. He was willing to be not only the conduit pipe through which the goods passed, but he was willing and did make a false declaration which was sufficient to mislead a British Consul out there—I do not know how wide awake they are. These goods must be dealt with under the Order in Council of March 11, 1915, both as enemy property and as goods having an enemy destination. I order their sale and payment of proceeds into Court to remain until the conclusion of peace. As to the bamboo on the Canton, the consignment was by Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., of Kobe, to Messrs. D. Dieden and Co., of Malmö. Messrs. B. Dieden and Co. also appear to have been willing to act in such a way as to assist the Hamburg house of Messrs. O. Bergmann and Co., so far as the transmission of telegraphic messages was concerned; but it does not appear that they were sent on, nor does it appear that they were willing to make any declaration such as Mr. Artberg was willing to make and did make as to the destination of the goods or their place of consumption. It is said, and there is evidence of it, that even in the transmission of cables and telegrams he ceased to act as intermediary in November 1915. The goods in question were seized some time in January, 1916. Messrs. B. Dieden and Co. have dealt fairly fully with the evidence put forward by the Crown, and have shown, I think, sufficiently that the goods were purchased by them for their own business and were resold in Sweden. In any event, even if their evidence falls short of actual proof of that, the Crown have not satisfied me that the bamboo was enemy property or had an enemy destination. I therefore order the release to the claimants of the net proceeds of the sale.

Muzzling the Norwegian Press.
Bitter opposition has been aroused in the Norwegian Press by the Government's proposal to introduce a Bill providing for the punishment of newspapers which render themselves guilty of attacks upon foreign Powers or their accredited representatives.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

WAR TAXES.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir.—The topic which is perhaps at the present time of the most absorbing interest to Hongkong residents is the question of the method by which money shall be raised for the purpose of increasing the contributions of this Government towards the War Fund. Much has been written, and many suggestions have been made, some of which are considered to be exceedingly good. But the only method which has so far met with the approval of the Government is that of adding 7 per cent. to the present rates of 13 per cent. and providing that this addition shall be paid by the occupier of a tenement, and not by the owner (unless, of course, he is himself both owner and occupier.)

A further suggestion which appears to me, and to numbers of my friends, to be a better one than any of those yet made, is that a tax should be levied on every person leaving the Colony, by rail or steamer, and on all cargoes imported into, or exported out of, Hongkong. The tax need be so small that individuals would hardly feel it, and yet the total would amount to a very much larger sum than the total of 7 per cent. on the present rates. Moreover, in this way, every single person resident in this Colony, whether a householder or not, would be affected, for provision could be made that the occupiers of goods imported, as also those exported, should add to the tax a small amount which would be levied on the goods.

My suggestion is that each first or second class passenger ticket from Hongkong to any other place, and each first or second class cargo ticket from Hongkong to any other place, should be levied a tax of \$1.00 (that is, a sum of one dollar) and a 50 cent stamp on any other class of passenger ticket, while, as regards cargo, a ticket to such places should bear on it a 50 cent stamp for a first class passenger, 25 cents for a second, and 10 cents for any other class.

With regard to cargoes exported or imported, a tax on these might be levied at the rate of 5 cents a ton, a stamp to this amount being affixed to all Bills of Lading before such are signed, or endorsed, by the shipowners. It being now necessary that complete manifests of all incoming and outgoing ships shall be furnished to the Harbour Office, it would be impossible to evade payment of the tax. And, as I have said, the sum I suggest is so small that neither would the shipowners nor consumers feel it to any appreciable extent.

In addition to these taxes, I suggest that there should also be levied a tax of five cents per ton on each merchant vessel entering the Harbour. Some years ago, I believe, a similar tax (though then of 2 cents per ton) was levied for the purpose of raising funds for the building of a breakwater or typhoon refuge which has long ago been completed. No objections were then made to that tax being levied for such special purposes, and none, I feel sure, would now be made to its being levied for a purpose far more important. In this way, too, shipowners who are actually benefitting by the vastly enhanced freights would be made to contribute more than they are now contributing.

Further revenues for this special purpose might be collected by the Harbour Office from all junks entering or clearing, a charge being made of one cent per picul on all cargo carried in those junks.

Although I doubt whether any serious objection will be raised to the method now proposed to be adopted by the Government, it seems to me to be somewhat unfair that those who can probably best afford additional taxation, the landlords should, or should be enabled to, suffer no extra expense at all. It has been

OPIUM.

Hongkong and the Reduction of Stocks.

The report on the Blue Book for 1916 has the following in regard to opium:

The clearance of certified opium from the Colony during the past year was much reduced. After the first two months of the year the disturbances that took place in the Kwangtung Province appear to have prevented the carrying out of the agreement which the Opium Combine entered into on October 1, 1915. The actual imports and exports of certified opium during the year are as follows:

	Malaya, Patna, Benares, Total
Import	31 4 35
Export	111 72 80 263

Of these, however, the imports all came from Szechuan, and of the total export of 263 chests 180 went to Shanghai. Very little was therefore done to reduce the actual stock of uncertified Indian opium held in Hongkong and Shanghai.

Six hundred and forty-one (641) chests of Persian opium were imported during the year and 734 chests were exported, of which 29 chests were to London and the remainder to Formosa. One thousand and thirty (1,030) chests of uncertified Indian opium were imported; 360 chests were imported by the Government monopoly, 500 chests were imported for the Macao Opium Farmer, and the remaining 170 chests were nominally intended for Mexico but owing to suspicious circumstances connected with the shipment they were returned to Calcutta.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

A Profit of over \$69,000.

The Blue Book for 1916 shows that the estimated capital expenditure on the Kowloon-Canton Railway for the year was \$386,198 but, owing to the delay in the delivery of materials from England, only \$209,388.74 of this sum was required and after the deduction of \$10,670.25 received by sale of old construction plant and materials, the year's expenditure amounted to \$198,718.49.

The construction cost of the main line to end of the year now stands at \$14,710,917.29 and of the Fungling branch at \$89,808.57. The working expenses amounted to \$298,891.63 or \$574.34 less than the previous year and when compared with gross receipts show a decrease, the percentage being 81.02 against 86.47 for 1915.

The revenue derived from local traffic amounted to \$141,799.41 or \$12,704.58 more than in 1915 and the earnings of through and joint sectional traffic \$213,441.04 against \$207,622.20 for 1915. Fungling branch receipts increased from \$7,052.05 to \$10,975.22.

The excess of earnings over expenditure for 1916 was \$69,524.04 an increase of \$23,020.93 when compared with the previous year.

suggested to me that the additional 7 per cent. on the rates should be made payable by both owner and occupier. Another method would be to add on to the Crown rent a sum equivalent to 7 per cent. on the rateable value of a tenement erected on Crown land occupied.

Or, if it is considered that the amounts to be raised by taxation of this kind should not exceed, altogether, 7 per cent. on the rateable value of a tenement, then I suggest that the owner should be made to pay half that amount by an addition to his rates. Thus, a person who is both owner and occupier of a house pays the full sum of 7 per cent. while in other cases that sum is equally divided between the owner and occupier.

Yours etc.
W. A. DOWLEY.

Hongkong, May 25, 1917.

EMPIRE DAY CELEBRATION.

School Picnic to Cheung Chau.

Empire Day was celebrated by the scholars and staff of the Saiyungpun School by a picnic to Cheung Chau. The party, which numbered over 300, left Jardine's wharf in three large launches at 10 a.m. and after a smooth and enjoyable passage, Cheung Chau was reached shortly after 11 a.m. The usual Empire Day sports, which have become an annual event and a feature of the day, were held. The entrants were so numerous that the heats were run off early in the week. The events, which were most keenly contested, resulted as follows:

100 Yards Flat Race (Senior).—1, Wan Man Kit; 2, Leung Oi Sang; 3, Hui Chang Mun.
100 Yards Flat Race (Junior).—1, So Siu-im; 2, Li Mar-ai; 3, Tang Sai-yung; 4, Lau Tang.
100 Yards Flat Race (Small Boys).—1, Leung Tin-sang; 2, Wong Chan-sing; 3, Mak Ting-kun.

Three Legged Race (Senior).—1, Leung Oi-sang and Wong Tai-kwan; 2, Hui Chung-ming and Lo Tai-ho; 3, Cheung Po-chung and Ho Man-kwong.

Three Legged Race (Junior).—1, Li Siu-pun and Mak Yau-choi; 2, Kwan Cho-yam and Lau Tang; 3, Li Ka-yu and Ling Hung-to.

Pick-a-Back Race.—1, Ling Hung-to and Tang Siu-yung; 2, Li Ka-yu and Tam Kim-shi; 3, Leung Tin-sang and Ng Han-sin.
200 Yards Flat Race (Senior).—1, Leung Oi-sang; 2, Wan Man-kit; 3, Au Kwong-lai.

200 Yards Flat Race (Junior).—1, So Siu-im; 2, Ng Kam-im; 3, Chan Mui-ying; 4, Li Man-bi.
Egg and Spoon Race.—1, Wan Man Kit; 2, So Siu-im; 3, Leung Oi-sang; 4, Lau Tang.

300 Yards Flat Race Handicap.—1, Leung Tin-sang; 2, Yeung Kwok-chung; 3, Lan Ting-chung.

Consolation Race.—1, Leung Oi-sang; 2, Ho Man-kwong; 3, Kong Chun-on.

Team Race.—Leung Oi-sang, Leung Oi-fan, Hui Chung-ming and Wong Ping-kwan.

The winner of the School Championship was Wan Man Kit, Class 5A, Leung Oi-sang, Class 4A, being a close second.

The Team Race was won by Class 4.

After the sports the party dispersed, the majority to bathe, others to fish, boat or explore, as inclination or fancy directed.

The Temple of Pak Tai was visited, and the theatrical performance in honour of his birthday attracted many.

Just before 4 p.m., the hour timed for departure, parties of thoroughly happy but tired schoolboys might have been seen wending their way back to the launches, loaded with the spoils of the day, which included shells, coral, sponge, seaweed, fish of various kinds and sizes, either caught or bought—and oysters, of which there seemed to be an abundance.

The first launch left at 3.55 p.m. and the others at ten minute intervals, Hongkong being reached without misadventure of any kind.

The special thanks of the staff are due to be British American Tobacco Co.; Messrs. Harry Wicking and Co.; Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.; and the Colonial Dispensary for articles which were given as prizes; and to Messrs. Lane Crawford and Co., who very kindly presented a set of chessmen, in a case, to be competed for by the members of the School Chess Club, who are the winners of the Hongkong Schools' Chess Challenge Shield.

The King's Birthday.

It is notified that His Excellency the Governor has ordered that the birthday of His Majesty the King is to be kept on Monday, June 4, 1917.

Consul for Peru.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to recognise, provisionally and pending the receipt of instructions from His Majesty's Government, Monsieur Luis Alvarez Calderon Astete as Consul for Peru in Hongkong.

HONGKONG FINANCES.

Colonial Treasurer's Report for 1916.

In his report on the finances of the Colony for the year 1916, the Colonial Treasurer states that the total revenue for the year amounted to \$13,833,387, being \$2,424,377 in excess of the estimate and \$2,047,280 more than the revenue in 1915. Compared with that year there were increases under all the heads except Light Dues. The railway was an additional disappointment in comparison with the estimate for the year itself.

The principal sub-heads showing real increases over the estimate are as follows:

(a) Sun-day Cargo Working Permits	\$ 51,000
(b) Liquor Duties	183,000
(c) Opium Monopoly	1,590,000
(d) Stamp Duties	66,000
(e) Land Sales	200,000
(f) Tobacco Duties	211,180

The increases are due under (a) to the shortage of shipping, (b) to increase in rates of duty, (c) to rise in sale price of opium, (d) to more Probate Duty, and (e) to land having been more in demand than expected; whereas (f) is an entirely new item.

3. The principal decreases were:

(a) Light Dues	\$24,500
(b) Liquor Licences	16,000
(c) Railway	68,000
(d) Conservancy Contract	35,000

Of these, (a) was due to the shortage of shipping, (b) to fewer applications, (c) to disturbances in Kwangtung, and (d) to the default of the late contractor who was largely in arrears with his payments owing to disturbances in Kwangtung.

The total expenditure brought to account amounted to \$11,079,915, being \$802,859 less than the estimate, and \$4,069,353 less than the expenditure in 1915. Compared with the estimates there were decreases under 21 heads as against 4 heads where there were increases. The excess, amounting to \$41,595 under Harbour Department was on account of purchase of buoys postponed from 1915, and to extraordinary repairs to the Stanley, and that of \$205,205 under Miscellaneous Services to loss on exchange and transport of prisoners to Australia. Military expenditure was larger by \$72,375 on account of the excess revenue in 1915 and Public Works Recurrent accounted for an extra sum of \$44,472, chiefly arising from Typhoon and Storm Damages and repairs to the dredger St. Enoch.

Decreases in Pensions (\$52,728), Public Debt (\$176,830), and in nearly all Departments were chiefly due to the rising exchange while the one on account of Railway (Construction Expenses \$187,479) was chiefly due to postponement of works to 1917.

The revenue for the year exceeded the expenditure by a sum of \$2,753,472; with the result that the debit balance of \$452,687 at the end of 1915 became a surplus of \$2,300,785 at the end of the year.

The Inscribed Stock Loans of 1893 and 1908 amount to \$1,485,732 and the contributions to the Sinking Fund with accrued interest total \$233,784 being \$22,929 more than the amount at credit of that fund at the end of 1915. Towards the end of the year an Ordinance was passed (No. 12 of 1916) to raise a loan of \$3,000,000 as a War Contribution to the Imperial Government. Of this \$2,250,000 was paid up on the 30th December last.

The only alterations of importance during 1916 in the revenue system or in taxation were the raising of the rates for prepared opium in February and again in April, and of the duty on liquors in March. Tobacco duties were imposed for the first time in July.

The total receipts and payments in the Treasury books during the year were \$30,644,976 and \$27,382,798 respectively. The figures not accounted for under revenue and expenditure relate to transactions under various heads such as Deposits, Advances, Subsidiary Coin, Unallocated Stores, etc.

Subsidiary coins in stock on the 30th December were as follows:

Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	\$25,025,355
Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China	7,765,117
Mercantile Bank of India	950,577

\$33,741,049

14. The rate of exchange for the Estimates was taken at 1/9 whereas the average rate for purposes of conversion in the Treasury books was 2/11.

HONGKONG FINANCES.

The Position at the End of February.

The Treasury issues the following financial statement for the month of February, 1917:

Revenue and Expenditure.

Balance of Assets and Liabilities on 31st January, 1917	\$1,708,476.17
Revenue from 1st to 28th February, 1917	1,100,186.17
	2,808,662.34

Expenditure from 1st to 28th February, 1917	1,288,927.81
Balance	\$1,541,734.53

LIABILITIES.

Deposits not Available	\$ 796,998.77
Crown Agents' Drafts	124,768.22
Postal Agencies	39,097.72
Exchange	2,742.37
Total Liabilities	963,667.08
Balance	1,541,734.53
Total	\$2,505,341.61

ASSETS.

Subsidiary Coins	\$327,065.48
Advances	300,734.08
Imprest	35,988.85
House Service Account	6,334.98
Crown Agents' Deposit Account	276,345.67
Unallocated Stores (P.W.D.)	277,087.62
Unallocated Stores (Railway)	129,848.07
Coal Account	61,987.25
Investment Account	153,967.68
Balance, Bank	924,116.78
Crown Agents' Current Account	12,055.19
Total	\$2,505,341.61

Accepted with Regret.

It is notified in the Gazette that, in consequence of the re-organisation of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, His Excellency the Governor has accepted with regret the resignation of Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Chapman, V.D., from the Command of the Corps, with effect from the 23rd May, 1917.

50 cents	\$9,642.00
20 cents	123,415.20
5 cents	142,866.40
Copper	21,297.98
	\$296,421.58

Against this however there was an advance by the Bank of \$14,137.90 in 10 cent pieces which makes the balance of the stock on the above date \$282,283.68. Coins were demonetized to the face value of \$5,025,000 all in ten cent pieces during the year. The balance of coins in circulation is now \$21,264,370.

The discount on subsidiary coin compared with the Silver Dollar entirely disappeared in the latter half of 1916. The maximum discount in each case earlier in the year was as follows:—50 cent-pieces 7 per cent; 28 cent-pieces 10 per cent; 10 cent-pieces 10 per cent; 5 cent-pieces 9 per cent; copper, par. There was also a complete change in the relation between silver dollars and bank notes. Whereas in 1915 the premium on the latter ranged from 4 per cent, the great demand for silver in Europe and elsewhere caused notes to fall to par value towards the close of the year.

The local circulation in December of notes of the three Banks having authorised issues was as follows:—

Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	\$25,025,355
Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China	7,765,117
Mercantile Bank of India	950,577

\$33,741,049

14. The rate of exchange for the Estimates was taken at 1/9 whereas the average rate for purposes of conversion in the Treasury books was 2/11.

SHIPPING SITUATION.

Requisitioning in the Far East.

In the House of Commons on April 4, Mr. Holt complained of the adverse effect of the shortage on our export trade with India, Burmah, and the Far East, and on the prosperity of our home industries, especially the cotton industry.

Mr. S. Samuel complained that in connection with many commodities preference was being given to foreign competitors. The Government was helping the Japanese to capture Indian and Chinese trade.

Sir L. C. Money replied that since the Shipping Controller had been in office 1,000 more vessels had either been or were being brought under requisition. Included in this great number of vessels were over 800 cargo liners trading on well-established routes. One of the consequences which had to be faced was that the Department were compelled to limit the shipping facilities of our own Dominions when they happened to be distant markets. The representatives of the Dominions who were now in this country had, however, accepted the situation in that spirit of patriotism and self-sacrifice which had been displayed by the Dominions throughout the war.

(Cheers.) He could assure the House that a total prohibition of cotton imports was not contemplated. The Department were endeavouring to arrange a regular service of steamers, the capacity of which would be made known quite frankly to those interested in the trade, so that they could enter into commitments accordingly. The Department hoped effectively to arrange an order of priority of imports, so that whatever cargoes could be brought into the country would be the cargoes most useful to it. (Hear, hear.)

Company Meetings, etc.—Oriental Cotton: The proposal to reconstitute, passed the confirmatory meeting on 16th inst. Llewellyn & Co.: The annual meeting will be held on 30th inst. Weeks & Co.: An advertisement summons the seventeenth ordinary meeting for 31st inst. Anglo-Java: An interim dividend of 25 will be paid on 11th prox. Chempedake: An interim dividend of 50 is declared payable on 25th inst. Gula Klumpang: The General Meeting was held in London on 28th March and there at the retiring Directors were elected and the competing re-elected of some shareholders in China were rejected. Karsin: The annual meeting is called for 6th prox. when a dividend of 120 will be proposed. Siamgait Kelantan: The first annual meeting is advertised to take place on 5th prox. Tebang: The amount of profit for division including Tis. 17,349 from the previous year is shown as Tis. 306,084, of which Tis. 109,990 has been paid out in 3 interim dividends. The Directors at the meeting to take place on 4th prox. will recommend that Tis. 30,870 be written off various accounts, Tis. 25,410 be placed to Development Reserve, Tis. 6,852 be donated to certain War Charities, and after the payment of a final dividend of Tis. 150, absorbing Tis. 109,930, a balance of Tis. 23,151 be carried to new account. A further recommendation contemplates the expurgation of certain book assets—Development Reserve, Reserve, and Premium on shares account—by the writing down from Property Account of Tis. 188,980.48, leaving it at Tis. 700,000.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

Orders issued by Mr. E. Ralphs state:—

Y.M.C.A. Division.

Tuesday, May 29th.—8 p.m. First Aid Lecture by Surgeon S. F. Lee. 9 p.m. Squad and Stretcher Drill.

Thursday, May 31st.—8 p.m. Bandage Practice. Corporal Wei Kan will take charge. 9 p.m. Squad and Stretcher Drill.

Saiyungpun Division.

Wednesday, May 30th.—7 p.m. Gymnasium; Bandage Practice.

Friday, June 1st.—7 p.m. Squad and Stretcher Drill.

Queen's College Division.

Tuesday, May 29th.—4.15 p.m. Squad and Stretcher Drill.

Wednesday, May 30th.—7 p.m. Gymnasium.

Friday, June 1st.—4.15 p.m. Bandage Bandage Practice.

J.P.'s Election.

It is notified that an election by the Justices of the Peace of a Justice of the Peace to serve on the Licensing Board for six months during the absence of the Hon. Mr. Edward Shellim will take place at the Magistracy on Monday, June 11, commencing at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Acting Appointment.

His Excellency the Governor has appointed Dr. Wilfrid William Pearce to act as Colonial Veterinary Surgeon in addition to his other duties, during the absence of Mr. Adam Gibson or until further notice, with effect from the 15th May, 1917.

New Doctor.

There is added to the register of medical practitioners the name of Dr. Stuart Seguin Strahan, Alexandra Buildings, member of the Royal College of Surgeons (England), Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians (London); Bachelor of Medicine of the University of Oxford.

Death Certificates.

The following additions have been made to the list of persons authorised by the Governor to sign certificates of the cause of death for the purposes of the Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance:—

1st Class Sub-Assistant Surgeon Abinash Chandra D., I.S.M.D.; 2nd Class Sub-Assistant Surgeon Shaikh Said Ali, I.S.M.D.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1917.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph"]

JAPAN AND THE ALLIES.

Valuable Naval Co-operation.

London, May 24.

In the House of Commons, Lord Robert Cecil, replying to a question, said that the activities of the Japanese navy had not ended with the operations resulting, with the co-operation of the British navy, in the extermination of the German naval forces in the Pacific. A special detachment of cruisers and destroyers had been despatched to the Straits Settlements where it had been assisting the British navy in guarding the Indian Ocean, east of Colombo. A northern Pacific detachment of Japanese cruisers last year carried out, at the instance of Great Britain, extensive cruises, which were of great importance to the Allied cause, while more recently, in view of the development of the naval situation, the Allied Governments had deemed it necessary that the co-operation of the Japanese navy should be extended. Accordingly the Japanese Government had despatched a considerable force of light craft to the Mediterranean, where it was now co-operating with Britain's and the Allies' naval forces. A new detachment of powerful fast cruisers had been despatched to assist protect shipping in the Indian and South Pacific oceans.

As valuable as this assistance had been it was additionally valuable as showing the spirit existing between all the Allies, and it indicated the greatness of the assistance we might expect in the future.

GERMAN INFLUENCES IN PORTUGAL.

London, May 24.

The Portuguese War Minister, who is at present in England, has been interviewed by Reuter, and he attributes the food riots in Portugal to German influences.

BAR SILVER FOR INDIA.

London, May 24.

The New York Banks, at the request of Indian customers, shipping bar silver to India, via San Francisco, in settlement of trade balance, at the rate of \$200,000 per week.

HONOURED BY THE KING.

London, May 24.

His Majesty the King has handed Sir Charles Egerton his Field Marshal's baton.

THE ELECTORAL REFORM BILL.

London, May 24.

The House of Commons has agreed to the second reading of the Electoral Reform Bill by 329 votes to 40.

AMERICA AND MUNITIONS.

London, May 24.

The War Cabinet has decided to discontinue the erection of a large explosives factory at Bristol, owing to the entry of the United States into the war.

THE ITALIAN VICTORY.

Fortnight's Fighting Summed Up.

London, May 25.

The tactical result of the Italian victory is that the Italians have at length fought their way to the lower of the rocky terraces descending from the Carso to the Adriatic, at a part where the tableland touches the sea, thus giving them a firmer and more secure hold on the coast, road and railway to Trieste, which is only thirteen miles from the point attained. Moreover, the Italians have made important gains near Gorizia, capturing the formidable Monte Santo, which had resisted repeated attacks for ten days.

Summing up the fortnight's fighting, the Italians have captured two of the strongest mountain fortresses north of Gorizia, repulsed an Austrian counter-attack in the Trentino, and inflicted upon the enemy the most severe reverse hitherto inflicted. In the Carso region the nature of the country resembles an enormous petrified sponge elaborately fortified, and this makes the feat all the more remarkable.

A Graphic Description of the Advance.

London, May 25.

Correspondents at Carso describe the enemy line as a quarried and holed rock, with acres of wire held up by iron standards cemented into the stone.

On the eve of the attack a furious "bora" wind swept the smoke of the Italian guns back upon the observers, and even wafted round the great slow ten inch bombs of the trench mortars, some bursting near their own batteries. Wednesday dawned calmer, and then hundreds of enormous trench mortars blew the solid trenches asunder, while a hail storm of shells of every description pounded the enemy lines.

The infantry advanced at four o'clock in the afternoon, each man looking like a goblin in a gas mask surmounted by a steel casque, thrashing forward into a death fog of shells, tripping over jagged rocks, methodically bombing machine gun positions, till they tumbled across the shattered parapets into the Austrian trenches. At one point there was a system of vast subterranean shelters, where a garrison was packed like sardines. These surrendered en masse.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph"]

THE CELEBRATION OF EMPIRE DAY.

London, May 25.

Empire Day was never more solemnly celebrated than yesterday in Great Britain. The occasion was everywhere utilised to impress upon the nation the necessity of a universal movement of self-defence against submarine piracy. His Majesty the King's proclamation, exhorting food self-denial, was read from the steps of all the Town Halls in the presence of municipal dignitaries and large crowds, many of whom afterwards signed the voluntary ration pledge.

There were also the customary demonstrations in the schools. Their Majesties visited the Royal Overseas Officers Club, in Pall Mall, and held a reception, afterwards informally conversing with many of the Dominions officers.

A notable participant in the celebrations was General Smuts, who addressed two gatherings of the members of War Clubs and of the Women's United Services League respectively, at Marylebone and Stepney.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, May 25.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—A local night attack to the south-west of Fontaine-lès-Croix was heavily repulsed, as was also a raid to the north-east of Arleux.

We captured a further portion of the front trench system to the south-east of Loos, this morning. A counter-attack failed.

We successfully raided to the south of Armentieres, and to the west of Messines.

TITLES FOR WOMEN.

How Shall we Honour the War Workers?

Is there a title we can bestow upon the many women who have rendered us eminent and valuable services during the war?

The thought occurred to me recently when in conversation with a prominent woman worker in the field of social and domestic reform. She was speaking of the busy life she led nowadays. She has been engaged "pushing" a great campaign which is being carried on under Government auspices, though not in itself an official undertaking, and she told me how it had necessitated her travelling several thousands of miles up and down the country and addressing many scores of meetings.

This was all voluntary work; her expenses were paid, nothing more. Nor was it her first contribution towards the national welfare during the war. She has worked energetically in connection with other enterprises, philanthropic, charitable, and social. Being a woman of immense energy and great capability, she has taken a leading and responsible part in all these undertakings, and all have proved very successful.

Had my friend been a man, it would have been easy to predict the reward which would have come with Peace—and perhaps earlier. It would have been a knighthood. But at the moment I can foresee no distinction which can fall to her lot to mark the nation's sense of gratitude and single her out from among other women. Her husband is a kindly man, but quite undistinguished, never likely to earn the title of "Sir" for himself and of "Lady" for his wife, and so I suppose this talented woman will remain plain "Mrs." to the end of her days. Had the reverse been the case, had her husband been the clever, energetic, pushing partner, and had the knighthood not gone astray, she would have become "Lady" as a matter of course, even though she had not raised a little finger in support of the war.

When the honours of war come to be distributed, this country will blossom with dignities and titles showered upon the men. There will be a fine crop of peerages, baronetcies, knighthoods, K. O. Bs; O. Bs; M. V. Os, and other marks of rank and degree. Medals will glitter on the breasts of soldiers and sailors. All our colonels, captains, and lieutenants of the new armies will be left, presum-

ably, with the signs of their rank as courtesy titles. But how shall we distinguish the women?—the organisers and directors of the various movements, societies, corps, and the like, which have played so wonderful a part in the national effort? What have we to offer them?

The suffrage, some may answer flippantly, feeling no doubt that the privilege of being canvassed at election times for her "esteemed vote and support" ought to satisfy any rational woman. Votes for women will probably come as one of the legacies of the war: but the suffrage will be general, and possession of the vote will in no wise mark the woman as one who has rendered conspicuous service to her country in its hour of trial. What is wanted is something personal to herself, something that will make other women a little envious of her.

A man is summoned to Buckingham Palace, receives the accolade by the King and rises a knight. There is no corresponding ritual and ceremony for a distinguished woman. Surely a great opportunity presents itself for the institution of some order of chivalry and honour for women? It would be a gracious and inspiring moment in the life of a woman to be called to Buckingham Palace, to be greeted by the Queen in her Majesty's position as the First Lady in the Land, and come away with a new rank and title.—(Daily Mail.)

A Correction.

We are asked to call attention to the fact that the entertainment to be given by the 25th. Bttn. Middlesex Regiment at Mount Austin Barracks on Tuesday evening next, is due to commence at 8.30 and not at 6.30, as previously stated by us.

No Likin on Grain.

A notification has been issued by the Director of the Hankow Tax Office stating that circular instructions have lately been received from the Board of Finance to the effect that with the view of encouraging the cultivation of grain in China, taxes will not be levied on the same while in transport to or from inland places for a period of one year. The Likin Offices are therefore instructed to act accordingly.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

Peak Tramways Company Limited.

[VERBATIM.]

The ordinary annual general meeting of the Peak Tramways Company, Limited, was held at the Hongkong Hotel, this morning. Mr. Henry Humphreys (Chairman) presided and there were also present, Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G.; the Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton, Mr. J. Scott Harston and Mr. G. S. Gubby (Directors), Mr. G. Rapp (Secretary) and Messrs. J. A. Tarrant, W. Morley, and D. E. Clarke (shareholders).

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, as it is the hour for which this meeting has been called, I will ask Mr. Rapp to read the notice convening the meeting.

The Secretary having read the notice,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, — The report and Statement of accounts and auditors' report having been in your hands for the past week I propose with your permission to take them as read. The accounts, as you will observe, are not as good as last year. There has been an increase of \$252.43 in traffic receipts and a saving of \$2,134.58 in wages and \$2,321.09 in subsidiary costs respectively. On the other hand coals and stores (principally coal) have cost \$4454.77 more.

The donation to War Charities viz: \$2,500 accounts for nearly all the difference between this year's net profit and last and is responsible for our not being able to add anything to reserve for the period under review. This is a matter which need cause no concern to shareholders for the Company's Reserve Fund is sufficient for its present needs. Taking everything into consideration, your directors think that the payment of the same dividend as last year is justified and will be appreciated, and they have no doubt the donation to war charities will meet with your approval. In these days we not only have to give as individuals but as corporations, and although many of us in so doing give twice over I am sure there will be none to grudge in so good a cause. During the year the mortgage on R. B. L. 21 was paid off and the money therefrom invested in shares of local companies. I do not think there is anything else calling for special comment, so I will now propose that the report and statement of accounts as presented be passed. When this has been duly seconded, I shall be pleased before putting the motion to the meeting to answer any questions shareholders may have to ask.

Mr. Tarrant:—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts.

The Chairman:—The proposition is now before the meeting, if any shareholder has any question to ask. It has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Tarrant that the report and statement of accounts as presented be passed. All those in favour kindly hold up their hands. Against? Carried unanimously. I now beg to propose that the retiring directors, Dr. J. W. Noble, Mr. J. Scott Harston, Mr. C. S. Gubby, the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and the Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton, be re-elected for the ensuing year.

Mr. Morley:—I beg to second the re-election of the retiring directors.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Morley, that the retiring directors whose names I have just read be re-elected for the ensuing year. Those in favour kindly hold up their hands. Against? Carried unanimously.

Mr. Clarke:—I beg to propose the re-election of the retiring auditors, Messrs A. R. Lowe and Bernard Brown at a remuneration of \$100 each per annum.

Mr. Morley:—I have much pleasure in seconding the proposition of the re-election of auditors.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Clark and seconded by Mr. Morley that Messrs. Bernard Brown and A. R. Lowe be re-elected as auditors for

the ensuing year, at a remuneration of \$100 each. All those in favour kindly hold up their hands. Against? Carried unanimously. That concludes the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants can be had by applying at the offices of the Company today. Thank you for your attendance.

Messrs. A. S. Watson and Co., Limited.

The thirty-second annual ordinary general meeting of Messrs. A. S. Watson and Co., Ltd., was held to-day at noon at the Hongkong Hotel. Mr. Henry Humphreys presided and there were also present Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Mr. J. Scott Harston (Directors), Mr. J. A. Tarrant (Secretary), and Messrs. P. O. Potts, D. E. Clarke, W. Morley, W. H. B. Muskett, W. G. Humphreys, J. M. Wong, G. Rapp, O. B. Bayars, F. W. Stapleton, P. Tester, and W. A. Loughlin (shareholders).

The Chairman:—Gentlemen, it is now past the hour for which the meeting has been called, and I will ask the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting.

The Secretary having read the notice,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, — I do not propose to read the report and statement of accounts and auditors' report unless you wish it, as same have been in your hands for the past week.

I am glad to again be able to come before you with a favourable account. In keeping down the dividends below the level, relatively, of those paid in former times, and by freely writing off for depreciation, the financial position of the Company has undergone something like a transformation; and our liabilities other than capital and reserve are getting steadily smaller, whilst our liquid and tangible assets are growing.

We have, of course, been affected in some ways prejudicially by the war. Apart from difficulty in obtaining much-needed supplies, we have given freely both in treasure and men. Our donations to war charities have been large, and no less than seven of our men are at the front, all of whom have received financial assistance from the Company. Several of them have already obtained commissions. Of the seven, we have only been able to replace four, so that we are now working three men short. Any further demand on our man-power will necessitate the closing of one or more of our branches.

Comparing the accounts before you with those of the previous year, you will notice that the mortgage on Shamsen Lot No. 74, Canton, and the buildings thereon has been paid off, but the amount owing against mortgage of Marine Lot No. 293 and Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1208 up to \$125,000 has been correspondingly increased.

Our stocks show an increase of \$47,995, representing for the most part increases in leading lines for which we have a ready sale and are difficult now to get. We are very glad indeed to have these increased stocks.

The loss on subsidiary coins in 1916 was \$10,036.34 or \$9,140.51 less than the previous year. Practically the whole of the saving has occurred in Hongkong.

Our Shanghai soda water factory was sold during the year, and the loss on same has been deducted from our trading profits in the accounts before you. The item in the accounts among the assets "Mortgage by W. J. Haynes on Shanghai Aerated Water Plant and Machinery" represents security for the balance of the purchase money.

A fire in our Stanley Street warehouse on 11th April last resulted in the whole of fifth floor and cockpit used as a laboratory and for putting up proprietary medicines respectively, being destroyed. Fortunately the fire proof iron door and concrete floor prevented the flames spreading to the rest of the structure and the adjoining buildings, which only suffered from water damage. Although there is a good deal of dislocation and inconvenience, we are able to carry on. The loss and damage to stocks and building are covered by insurance.

The proposed transfer of \$20,000 to Reserve Fund and

CHURCH SERVICES.

St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong.—

Whit Sunday, 27th May 1917.

Holy Communion (7.50 a.m.).

Matins (11 a.m.) Responses:

Festal. Venite: Goodson.

Psalm: Crotch, Cooke. Te

Deum: Battishill, Jones, Bat-

tishill (4th evening). Jubilate:

Tomlinson (3rd morning).

Hymns: 155, 154. God Save

the King. N.B.—Psalm 68,

verses 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 12, 19, 20,

24, 25, 32, 33 in unison. Holy

Communion (12 noon). Even-

ing (6 p.m.) Responses: Festal.

Psalm: Old Melody, Travers

(20th evening). Cooke. Magni-

ficat: Smart. Nunc Dimittis:

Kelway (3rd morning). Anthem:

"Come Holy Ghost" Attwood.

Hymns: 215, 156. N.B.—

Psalm 104, verses 1, 7, 20, 24,

26, 31, 35 in unison. Psalm 145,

verses 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 21 in

unison. Hymn 215, verses 2, 5

in unison.

St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon.—

Whit Sunday 27th May 1917.

Holy Communion at 8 a.m. and

at Morning and Evening Ser-

vices. Morning Prayer 11 a.m.

Responses: Festal. Venite: As

set. Psalms: As set. Te Deum:

Blissett. Jubilate: Battishill,

Chant No. 320. Kyrie: Mende-

lessohn. Hymns: 8, 595 (second

tune), 261 and 258. God Save

the King. Evening Prayer 6

p.m. Responses: Festal. Psalm

CIV Verses 1 to 23. Chant No.

216. Verse 24 to end, Chant No.

217. CXLV, Cooke. Chant No.

376. Magnificat: W. A. Chant

No. 398. Nunc Dimittis: Elvey,

Chant No. 59. Kyrie: Mende-

lessohn. Hymns: 261, 595,

(second tune), 255 and 451.

Vesper Hymn. God Save The

King.

Union Church, Kennedy Road.—

Sunday Services, May 27.

Morning 11. Evening 6. Prea-

cher: Rev. J. Kirk Macdonachie.

St. Peter's Church, West Point.—

8 a.m. Holy Communion. 10.20

a.m. Sunday School. 11 a.m.

Morning Prayer and Sermon:

Preacher: Rev. W. T. Feather-

stone.

The Gospel Hall.—(No. 10 and

12 Pedders Street). Weekly

Services:—Sunday. Breaking

of Bread, 11 a.m. Gospel Meet-

ing, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Exposition

of Scripture, 8 p.m. Thursday,

Bible Class, 8 p.m. Friday,

Bible Class for Ladies, 5.30 p.m.

Saturday, Prayer Meeting, 8

p.m.

Wesleyan Methodist Church,

Wanchai.—Sunday Morning

Service 10.15 a.m. Sunday

Evening Service 6.15 p.m.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Home

Arsenal Street.—Sunday Even-

ing, Gospel Services, 8 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church, Garden

Road.—Mass and Sermon at

10 a.m. followed by the Bene-

diction of the Blessed Sacra-

ment.

Roman Catholic Cathedral, Glen-

evally.—Low Masses at 6, 7, and

9.30 a.m. High Mass at 8 a.m.

5.30 p.m.—Benediction of the

Blessed Sacrament.

First Church of Christ Scientist.

—MacDonnell Road: Sundays,

11.15 a.m. Wednesdays, 5.30 p.m.

the payment of \$3,000 to Staff

Provident Fund will, I trust,

meet with your approval.

I have now to propose that the

report and statement of accounts

as presented be passed and when

same has been duly seconded they

will be open for discussion.

Mr. Potts:—I have much

pleasure in seconding the adoption

of the report and statement of

accounts.

The Chairman:—The accounts

have now been proposed and

seconded, and now is the time for

shareholders to ask any questions

if they wish to. The accounts

have been proposed by myself and

seconded by Mr. Potts. All those

in favour kindly hold up their

hands. Against? Carried un-

WEATHER REPORT.

On the 26th at 11.55.—The returns from Japan are lacking, and those from the Philippines are incomplete. Pressure has decreased slightly to moderately at the majority of stations reporting: it is probably highest in the Pacific to the south-east of Japan. A depression covers S. Manchuria, and another is indicated over the south part of the China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.31 inch. Total since January 1st 17.59 inches, against an average of 30.90 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON TO-MORROW.

District.	Forecast.
1 Hongkong to Gap Rock.	E. winds, fresh to moderate; cloudy, occasional rain.
2 Formosa Channel.	N.E. winds, fresh; moderate.
3 South coast of China Sea.	The same between H.K. and Lamooki as No. 1.
4 South coast of China Sea.	The same between H.K. and Hainan as No. 1.

C. W. JEFFRIES, Chief Assistant.

Hongkong Observatory, May 26, 1917.

METEOROLOGICAL.

	Previous	Day	On date	On date
		at 9 a.m.	at 4 a.m.	at 9 p.m.
Barometer	29.83	29.80	29.80	
Temperature	70	71	72	
Humidity	83	82	95	
Wind Direction	E	E	E	
Force	4	4	3	
Weather	o	od	od	
Rain	2.02	0.00	0.21	
Highest open air temperature on the 25th	77			
Lowest	54			

H.K. Observatory, May 26, 1917.

T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

THE COURAGE OF FRANCE.

Unshakable Energy to Meet

German Savagery.

Paris, March 27.—M. Painleve,

Minister of War, explaining in

the Chamber the necessity of

calling up the 1918 class (young

men of eighteen) said:—

We are entering the decisive

stage of the war, but decisive is

not synonymous with short. For

the first time the proud German

army had had to confess her wes-

tern front not unshakable, but

successful as may be the begin-

nings of the spring campaign, it

would be puerile to regard the

German retirement as an aban-

donment. The retirement is

proof of the need for the German

army to master its strength for a

hard battle.

Germany is gathering her

military and internal energies for

a desperate effort. By the

mobilisation of all her masculine

and feminine forces, by the

abominable violence which she

has used to compel citizens of

the invaded countries to work

for her, she has been able to send

to the battlefield all her sons

capable of bearing arms. In spite

of the sufferings and despair of

her people, Germany has suc-

ceeded in keeping her armies as

numerous and as solidly equipped

as ever.

That is the instrument of war

over which we have to triumph,

but the resources of the Allies are

so immense, the heroism of their

soldiers so high, that we shall

succeed—on condition that we are

under no delusion as to the effort

to be put forth and that we meet

German savagery with unshakable

French energy.

If it is inevitable that the 1918

class must take its share in the

harvest of blood, we would not

wish its presence to be lacking

at the supreme moment when it

should weigh in the balance

(cheers).

The Minister's demand for the

incorporation of the 1918 class

between April 12 and 15 was

made in agreement with the Army

Committee.—Reuter.

For Burns.

Dr. Bluet, house surgeon at St.

Thomas' Hospital, stated at an

inquest at Lambeth that the use

of molten paraffin wax for burns

had been a tremendous success in

the Army, where it was used for

burns caused by liquid flame

projected by the Germans. The

wax, should be kept in every

household.

SUFFERING HEROES.

LOT OF PRISONERS IN GERMANY.

Some Facts Which Cannot be Ignored.

The following article is contributed to *United Empire*, the organ of the Colonial Institute, by R. Hamilton:—

There was a story current at the Cape in the early decades of the last century that the parade ordered of a certain regiment ran: "All dem wid shoes an' stockin' stan' in de front. All dem wid one shoe or stockin' stan' at de back. All dem wid no shoe an' no stockin' stan' in de middle." The tale comes back to mind as illustrative of the method devised by Tanton diplomats to make favourable impression on neutrals and on certain sentiment-mongers in other countries by the publication of a profusely illustrated effusion entitled "Prisoners of War in Germany." It opens with an elaborate introduction by Professor Backhaus, who is the authority responsible for the dietetic standards whereon the feeding of prisoners—at Ruhleben, for instance—is criminally based. "Clearly and explicitly it refutes," so the Professor announces, "all the calumnies which our enemies have spread abroad regarding Germany's treatment of her prisoners." Rather, we are told, everything is done for them that the most humane benevolence, advanced science, and chivalry (sic) can compass, in these best-of-all-possible prison camps. The cynic may murmur, "Methinks the lady doth protest too much." But as a sample of enemy window-dressing, the publication has its points. It has distinct points. The puzzled neutral may well shake a bewildered head as he turns from its well-ordered pages to let us say, Lord Northcliffe's ornate phrase, "the bottomless pit of the German prison camps," or such mild expostulations on the part of the ex-Foreign Secretary as that British prisoners "it is feared, are undergoing great hardships." The most cursory examination and comparison of the Professor's discourse, German photographs in this and other publications and what documentary evidence is forthcoming in the Allies' official publications, or the Reports of the Croix Rouge, must give seriously to think.

Max Nordau asserted that the Englishman believed anything he saw in print, and would accept a fit of delirium if it appeared to footnotes. The couple of decades that have elapsed since the publication of "Degeneration" have educated, in part at least, the too credulous Briton. If the events of recent years have not done so we are, in very truth, in perilous condition. This is not the case. Moreover, the popularity of the snap-shot camera has admitted thousands of amateurs to the secrets of the dark-room, and thereby to the knowledge that a camera, or its printed output, can be so manipulated as to lie most profoundly. A glaring instance of truth made false is shown in one of the pictures of Munster Gefangenlager, which gives under the title of "Chambers for liberty and civilisation," various African natives, including a Kruo boy! This ponderous Professor jibes at the blacks as "fighters for freedom and civilisation," but offers no explanation of the Kruo boy's presence—a non-fighter, probably taken from an interned merchant vessel. In this connection it is well to remember that the Germans, who, it would seem, invariably consider themselves the exceptions, are to prove all rules, did not disdain to make use of the services of coloured troops in African campaigns, though obvious reasons precluded such use elsewhere.

The advertising Tanton has made lavish display of pictured evidence, with accompanying commentary, to emphasise the perfection of German methods of treatment. But there is another side to these so excellent pictures. "Somehow, I never saw that part of the camp," said an exchanged prisoner drily when shown an illustration of the *Kriegsgefangenenlager* wherein he had spent

many dreary months. None would identify an "overcrowded barrack in a town" round "a perfectly flat rectangle of hard yellow earth," some "seventy to eighty yards long and about sixty yards wide," with the picture of large stone buildings in ornamental grounds, where a scattering of uniformed figures saunter or sit about—the Officers' Prison at Orefelt, from the point of view selected for neutral consumption by the compilers of this specious propaganda. "False, like the stories of brutality on the part of German soldiers, of the just for war of the German people, and all the countless statements in disparagement of Germany which the English and French cables spread throughout the world, are the newspaper reports of the bad treatment which Germany meted out to the prisoners," writes Backhaus. Well might the neutral ask with Pilate, "What is truth?" But the above details are not newspaper rumours, they are taken from the official report on the prison furnished by Mr. Michelson, American Consul at Cologne, and the sworn statement of a British officer after he had escaped from that prison. Major Vandelaar's personal evidence stirred up even the most philosophic of Whitehall officials to formal protest. In reply the German military authorities issued a detailed denial, and Mr. Pecksniff himself could not have bettered the pained reproach and pseudo-righteous indignation of this amazing document. It stigmatised the Englishman's evidence as "Partly untrue and partly immeasurably exaggerated." But his testimony stands by no means alone. "There is authentic evidence of many instances of officers, prisoners of war, on their way to Torgau, both from officers, soldiers, members of the Red Cross, and civilians," reported the American Consul-General. "So great had been the misery of our journey," an interned Baptist Minister wrote, "that solitary confinement in a criminal's cell was a positive relief." The writer was in Germany when the war broke out, and was kept at Cologne. "My views then," he confessed, "were, alas! in the main pro-German." The evidence of this civilian, therefore, is the more valuable in confirmation of statements made by combatant prisoners.

There is no need now to labour the tragic tale. We know, and the neutral world must know also, that Germany in the flush of initial victory treated her luckless captives with more than careless disregard—with absolute cruelty. Tanton denial on the ground of impossibility, "having regard to the mentality, upbringing, and social status of the whole class of German officers," are in themselves calamitous. Such "mentality and upbringing" did not prevent officers from using offensive language and ill-treating their hapless victims. It did not prevent German doctors and nurses from mutilating and torturing wounded men. It did not prevent German Red Cross "ladies" from refusing even the "cup of cold water" to their suffering enemies. It is, therefore, not surprising to find that German crowds should shout to British officers "the particular kind of Schweinhunde they believed the Englishmen to be," and that the inhabitants of Wittenberg should amuse themselves—at a safe distance—by insulting the dead when carried to burial from the plague-stricken purgatory of their prison camp.

If ill-treatment was meted out to officers, how infinitely more awful were the sufferings of the rank and file. Well may Ernest Daudet describe the journal of a wounded Frenchman as a "martyrology."

But these are not the pictures Prof. Backhaus and his collaborators have selected for the edification of the neutral public. They display a busy scene of censors examining orderly boxes of letters at Parchim, but not the letters using "a candle or an ex-sinew-lark." There is no picture showing prisoners at Bannau tied to a post. Russian prisoners are shown dancing at Orefelt, but not undergoing punishment with "Fouet et du poeau," at Cottbus. Long-haired pictures display French and Russian surgeons, a group of Russians and French, a Gaul pipe in hand, a detachment starting for work, but do not show

a card hanging over a water-tap—the only one available from 9 a.m. to 6 a.m.—"warning against the use of the water as it was under suspicion of being typhoid"; they gave no hint that British non-commissioned officers were sent to the *Strafbaracken* and "were not permitted to smoke, to play cards, they could not have hot water for tea, and were not permitted to attend or play games, football, &c.; that they were looked up in this sense of the term for refusing to volunteer for work." Other pictures show a football match at Orefelt, a boxing match at Ruhleben, but there is no mention of Col. Brunner, the Commandant at Gardelegen, forbidding, "under pain of severe punishment," either football or boxing, when the hard-worked British doctors tried to encourage the men to take interest and exercise in outdoor games. A charming old castle set among trees is given as—presumably—the prisoners' quarters at Trausnitz, but you may turn the pages in vain for such a "black hole" as the prison at Dyroitz, where a corporal and five men were incarcerated because they failed to accomplish the daily task set them, on entirely insufficient nourishment, in the work camp at Bietzow. (If prisoners, where the men were locked up for seven days, in an unused mortuary constructed of boards, floor space approximately eight feet square, with a gabled roof ten feet high. The only window "had been closed with black paper. The only ventilation possible was through the cracks between the boards. . . . darkness was one of the specified conditions of the state of 'arrest.' Their food was bread and water, except on the 4th day, the only one when blankets and mattresses were furnished." Besides this "arrest" in a dark cell, lesser crimes meet with "disciplinary treatment" by solitary confinement, by the stoppage of correspondence, and such few "privileges" as may nominally be permitted; also by the forfeiture of parcels. The last has more serious consequences than a mere withdrawal of a possible pleasure, when food questions are taken into consideration.

The Professor gives elaborate food-tables, "recommended as suitable for prisoners." The "recommended" is an inspiration. There has never been shortage of food-tables and menus. These have been supplied as lavishly to neutral and enemy officials as the food advertised therein has been sparingly furnished to the prisoners concerned. Look where you will through the Blue Books, Belgian, and Russian Reports, Croix Rouge Commission statements, the evidence of liberated men, the guarded letters of the prisoners themselves, there is the same liberality of food-tables, the monotonous complaint of lack of food. "Mr. Starving" is no stranger to our men. "The British did not look like well-nourished men," Mr. Michelson wrote in his report of Wehr, a cautious comment after the previous remark: "They complained impressively that they were perpetually hungry." If it is not true that a prisoner wrote to say the food was good and plentiful and he was quite content, adding, "P.S.—Abe has been shot because he said it wasn't," correspondence such as the following came to hand with too sad frequency. A servant girl, hearing that the prisoners were starving, wrote to her brother Edward in 1915: "Just a few lines hoping same will find you quite well. I should like to know if you have met Mr. Starvey or Mr. Gotschuff. With regard to Edward G. I haven't seen him since last August, when he told me he had left little Mary to your care, so do year best for her. Give her all the home comforts and nourishment you possibly can so as to ease his anxiety. I suppose all at home will help you." "All at home" have helped, and it is owing to such individual and collective efforts that any British soldiers have escaped the slow torture of calculated starvation; for though the Professor calls the food supplied "ample" all available evidence negatives this assertion.

If these evils pertain to the big camps, where publicity might afford some measure of protection, and official tours of inspection

occasionally compel a degree of sweeping and garnishing other than normal, much more are faulty conditions likely to be prevalent in the numerous *Arbeitslager* (working camps), to which a proportion of prisoners are continually drafted. It is held a privilege by their captors that the British prisoners show no eagerness for such occupations, which vary from agricultural labour and factory work to employment on the railways and in the mines. To avoid being sent to work camps such as Baistrop, British prisoners are said to have destroyed their clothing, cut their boots, and hidden their uniforms. So German authorities informed American visitors. As it is reported that the prisoners at Baistrop "are principally fed on beet root and kohlrab," and are given meat from diseased animals, this is hardly surprising. Moreover, the idea was certainly current among the rank and file that working meant giving "aid to the enemy," and therewith risk of forfeiture of pay. However this may be, it is certain that the work is always hard, the food and accommodation varying only in badness. At Suder-Zollhaus "at 6 a.m. they obtain a ration of gruel, and twice a week they have a ration of coffee"—in other words, of burnt beans and scum. "On this substance they are supposed to work till noon." French prisoners at Offenbourg are allowed "75 to 100 grammes of bread per diem"—from 2 to a trifle over 3 ounces—and to sharpen the sauce of hunger hear from their relatives at home of Prussian prisoners employed on the railway at Le Gers, on a diet of white bread (800 grammes as against 300 at most given to the Allies' prisoners in Germany), 300 grammes of fresh meat, 800 of vegetables, half a pint of wine, with a slice of butter, and a variety of "extras." Small wonder that Germany should not cease each belligerent country to supply officially the food for their men "in the enemy's hands!"

In addition to bad food, bad lodging, and heavy tasks, the character of the work itself has to be taken into account. It needs no expert knowledge of mining to realise that among gangs of unskilled workers forced to labour below ground in utter ignorance of methods and conditions, the percentage of accidents and personal injuries must be excessively high. It would be easy to give occasional accounts based on the reports of men who have returned from German prisons. It is sufficient to say that often the gangs of workers are kept segregated from their companions in the camps. At Jämburg precautions were taken to prevent the men who worked in the lead mines from even being seen by the other prisoners. They were marched out before daylight, and did not return till night; that they might again hide their tragedy. And there are blacker pages yet. Very little is known of the unfortunate men whose ill-fortune it has been to be sent to working camps in the enemy-occupied Russian districts. What is known is by no means reassuring. The pages of Croix Rouge reports, official papers, or German propaganda alike may be searched vainly for information concerning, for instance, Stralkowo or Heilsberg. Men are drafted there "to work in the mines." They must be strong—stronger than the fact in our junction with official instructions to furnish them with sheepskins and strong boots—for they are employed also, and it would appear mainly, to construct trenches on the German front against our Russian allies. There is not even direct communication with these poor souls, lost in a Hades one can only conjecture from the fact that their only hope is broken health that must prohibit their employment at such work.

If the treatment of officers and men represents the positive and comparative degrees of badness, that accorded to the sick and wounded assuredly touched the superlatives. The bombastic statement of Professor Backhaus is that "the work of German medicine in the Prisoners of War Camps takes its stand worthily on a level with that of the German doctors and medical corps in the field." For once we are in profound agreement with the Professor. It does. Taken as a whole, it is emphatically done.

There are, undoubtedly, some notable exceptions. Such exceptions are the more honourable in view of evidence that a doctor was punished by three weeks' arrest "for acting with weakness." Weakness means humanity towards the wounded in his charge. But on the full count the parallel holds. The German medical and nursing staff at Montigny-lez-Metz were indeed worthy comrades of the doctors who left their stricken charges to die like flies, untended except by following prisoners, in Wittenberg and Gardelegen. "We owe you your lives, nothing more. And even this is a concession on our part," said Dr. Orth to a wounded Frenchman, whose leg had been needlessly amputated. "Necessary or unnecessary, that's our business, another argued. 'Anyhow, the *Kriegsgefangenen* will remember us, and that's what we want. You may think yourself lucky to get off so cheaply. One leg is not much. If it had depended on me, you would have lost both.' Moreover, it is not only what has been done but even more what remained undone that has caused untold suffering. Hereafter there are praiseworthy exceptions, particularly at Göttingen. Weesels has a good hospital. At the Alexandrinenstrasse, Berlin, a doctor dresses the prisoners' wounds every day. At Cassel the sick are humanely treated, and there are two nurses, a rare enough feature in the men's lazarets. Ohdruff, and in various other camps, it is considered sufficient that the wounded can send for a doctor. But it is not exceptional to find circumstances similar to those existing in the Suder-Zollhaus *Arbeitslager*, under Gustrow, where the sick and wounded are left to the care of roughly trained comrades, with a civilian doctor vaguely in the background as possibly procurable by a special summons from a town.

Explanation! Germany has a wealth of explanations and excuses to suggest and proffer them concurrently with denial of any need to explain. Were prisoners uncomfortable in process of transportation? Accommodation even for German soldiers offered great difficulties. Were the sick left neglected in the plague camps? So public an evil this that even Prof. Backhaus cannot treat it with the countenance of silence. Plausible excuse must be procured. "A portion of the prisoners of war from the East proved to be infected with cholera, typhus, dysentery, and above all with the devastating spotted fever. This latter disease is particularly dangerous on account of its extreme infectiousness and its often fatal consequences for Germans who caught it." Typhoid or typhus has been reported in the camps at Aldam, Cassel, Chemnitz, Erfurt, Gardelegen, Göttingen, Langensalza, Ohdruff, Sagan, Schneidemühl, Wittenberg, Zeesen, Zerbau, according to reports published in the Blue Books. The tragic stories of Gardelegen and Wittenberg have been made public. Both demonstrate that the causes of the outbreak were preventable at the inception: a lack of even elementary sanitary precautions, overcrowding, insufficiency of food, fuel, and clothing. The epidemic in each case were also preventable. No effort was made to improve matters. There was lack of supplies in the town of Wittenberg; yet for months the stricken camp was starved of the bare necessities. Gardelegen could supply carcasses of sheep to hang up outside the canteen, but only to make deceptive show and mislead the American visitors. Possibly all criminals and some defenders, as did even the guilty wretch Wirs, who paid for his evil administration of Andersonville with his life. But it remained for an Emperor of Germany to decorate the men who fanned the risks his position entailed and deserted his post. A worthy recipient of the Iron Cross!

A sorry story all this, even among the tragic trading history of prisoners of war. But there is a brighter side, which is surely being writ by a greater than any earthly historian in letters of gold on an imperishable page—the prisoners, the men themselves. "The men who weave a scarlet thread in the grey wool of our life is a public

benefactor," writes a contributor to the *Dobbert's Gazette*. The camps are full of these. But if there is good fellowship among the prisoners, it is not for lack of Germany's effort to breed dissension, and that not only between the Allies—confessedly to prove they are "not naturally allies"—but between the British themselves. Irish prisoners were offered differentiation of treatment. Irish officers were invited to join the German Army, and "given certain minor privileges." It is common knowledge how the traitor Roger Casement visited the Irish prisoners to try and win recruits for his rebel army. All honour to the gallant Irish boys that out of all the hundreds incarcerated but forty six could be found to accept the tempting chances of escape from imprisonment on such terms. What the Irish prisoners thought was proved by the fact that the German guards had to come to the rescue of the tempter, or his indignant and insulted countrymen would have torn him limb from limb.

Conditions to-day would appear to have bettered considerably; but this, as a study of all available evidence makes notably apparent, is in great part due to the prisoners themselves. Men have wrested good from the most adverse circumstances, proved themselves heroes against inconceivable odds. Half the pictures these German propagandists would send forth to prove Germany's "chivalry" prove upon examination only the indomitable spirit of the prisoners. They have beautified their hideous habitations, made gardens in the wildernesses of desolation, turned their enforced inactivity to ends that shall make them more valuable citizens of their own beloved countries when a more kindly fortune shall bring them release. Then, to quote from the letter of a prisoner sergeant now in Switzerland, "Surely it will be source of pride to them in later days to state that in the face of physical and conscientious [sic] obstacles they feared God, honoured the King and loved their country."

R. Hamilton.

COALING STATIONS FOR THE ENEMY.

A Department of Shipping and Industry.

Several of the more important matters which were before the Associated Chambers of Commerce at their meetings recently were under review at the meeting of the directors of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. James W. Murray, who presided, gave a report of the proceedings generally detailing the resolutions adopted. On the principal questions of national interest he thought that they might congratulate themselves that Sir Algernon Firth had consented to remain in office as president for another year, as they were very lucky to have at the head of affairs a man of such ability and energy. (Applause.) Among the resolutions dealt with was one which referred to the anomalies produced in the incidence of excess profits tax which inflicted grave injustice as between those subject to it, and urged upon the Government the desirability of such amendments of the Finance Act as would as far as possible remove such anomalies, and secure a more equitable distribution of the burden of the tax. He remarked that his information was that the Government were fully alive to the anomalies complained of, and that they would be rectified as far as possible, he hoped in the near future.

Mr. F. C. Gardiner spoke of the resolution dealing with shipping, which, he said, was one of the most important questions affecting the trade after the war. They had taken exception to one clause of the resolution, that which stated that for the period of five years after the declaration of peace no enemy steamer should be allowed to use coaling stations in the British Empire. He pointed out that there was a lack of definition about that clause. The proposal would not affect the Atlantic trade or South American trade, but only the Eastern and Australian trades. The ordinary course was to coal to Japan, then

again on Dutch territory, and at Port Said; while steamers coming from Australia usually bunkered either at Newcastle or Sydney, and probably again at Colombo. If this proposal was passed the German steamers would require to coal fully at these points or to lay down coal stations of their own. It might be said that there was no territory in which they could place stations, but he thought it would not be impossible, though somewhat inconvenient, for Germany to get coaling stations somewhere in the East, and also in the South of Spain, that would serve to bring their vessels right home. The obvious disadvantage was that, if unhappily, another war broke out we would find ourselves in this position, that Germany would have large supplies of coal on neutral territory which we could not touch. It would therefore, be foolish on our part to force them into that position. Ultimately the paragraph had been deleted. (Applause.)

Mr. J. T. Carrigill paid tribute to the speeches which had been delivered by Sir Albert Stanley and Mr. John Hodge. It was, he believed, the first occasion on which the President of the Board of Trade had spoken in public, and he had given them an extremely interesting and illuminating address, showing that he had studied the questions very carefully, and knew what was talking about with regard to questions at present engaging the attention of the Board of Trade. He had referred to the fact that they had taken over the control of railways, of coal mines, and petrol supply, and in regard to the latter had warned them that they need not expect practically any petrol for private purpose after this month during the course of the war. He (Mr. Carrigill) had been left with the impression that a good deal of what Sir Albert Stanley had said pointed to the necessity of doing what chambers of commerce had been asking for for many years—the creation of a separate Department of Commerce and Industry. (Applause.) Many questions have been left untouched, including that of shipping, which should be one of the principal duties of the Board of Trade, which indicated how impossible it is for the Board of Trade, and especially one man, to be able to have a clear grasp and knowledge of such a complexity of subjects. It only pointed to the necessity for having a Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and it occurred to him that in Sir Albert Stanley they had the very type of man cut out for the position. (Applause.) He had had a long business training, understood commerce in a way that no professional politician and, least of all, none of the professional lawyer politicians—(laughter)—could possibly do, and he thought it would be a very great step forward if this new department were created, with Sir Albert Stanley at the head of it. (Applause.) But Mr. John N. Hodge had been the success of the meeting; he was a typical labour man, with a strong force of character, and appeared to have the faculty of looking at both sides of the question. If they had only amongst the leaders of labour men of his type he did not think there would be any great difficulty in arriving at something like a good understanding between labour and capital. (Applause.)

Mr. J. A. Roxburgh agreed with Mr. Carrigill that the speeches were the best arguments they could have for the creation of a Ministry of Commerce. Among other matters coming before the meeting was the report of the deputation to the Board of Trade with reference to the establishment of a branch office in Glasgow for War Risk Insurance. Mr. W. T. Maclellan explained that they had laid their views before the officials in London, who expressed sympathy with the idea, but gave them little practical encouragement. However they had been asked to prepare a memorandum stating clearly the reasons for the wish, and that had been done, and he was hopeful that Glasgow would get a reply of a favourable nature. Mr. Murray informed the meeting that the development fund now amounted to £24,200. (Applause.)

DAIRY FARM NEWS.



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SHARE REPORT.

COMPARATIVE SHARE QUOTATIONS.

S.—SHELLING; M.—MAKING; R.—REVENUE; N.—NOMINAL.

To-day's Closing Prices	STOCK.	Number of Shares	Par Value	Paid Up	1915. Highest	1915. Lowest	1916/7. Highest to Date	1916/7. Lowest to Date	Last Dividend and Date
n. \$705	Banks. H.K. & S'hai Banking Corp.	120,000	\$125	all	845 Sept.	785 May	880	680	Int. Div. of \$2.31 at ex 2/11/16 = \$20.54 Fin. & Bonus, \$2.13/16 at ex 2/4/16 = \$22.12 making \$42.66 for 1916. Paid 26/2/17. Final Div. of \$18 a/c 1915, and interim of \$18 a/c 1916. Final Div. of \$18 making 27 1/2% for year ending 30/6/16 making \$20 and bonus of \$10 making \$30 for 1915. Int. Div. of \$30 for 1916 Paid 26/2/17. Final Div. of \$15 for 1915, and Interim \$3 for 1916. Paid 14/4/17.
n. \$350	Marine Insurance. Canton Ins. Office, Ltd.	10,000	\$250	50	427 1/2 Sept.	340 Jan.	436	350	
n. \$150	North China Ins. Co., Ltd.	10,000	\$15	25	180 April	145 Jan.	180	150	
n. \$270	Union Ins. S'ty of C'ton, Ltd.	12,400	\$250	100	972 Aug.	760 Jan.	\$1005	\$855	
n. ex \$217	Yangtze Ins. Assoc. Ltd.	12,600	\$100	60	280 Dec.	200 Jan.	300	217	
b. \$146	Fire Insurance. China Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	20	163 Aug.	127 1/2 April	168	146	\$7 & \$2 bonus 1916. Paid 26/4/17. \$27 for 1915. Paid 29/3/17.
b. \$325	H'kong Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$250	50	420 Sept.	385 Jan.	420	325	
b. \$81	Shipping. Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$50	all	104 1/2 Dec.	28 1/2 Mar.	137	80	Int. Div. of \$5.00. Paid 4/4/17.
b. \$17.50	H'kong, C. & M.S.S. Co., Ltd.	80,000	\$15	all	23 1/2 May	19 Dec.	24	17 1/2	\$1.25 for year ending 31/12/16 Paid 13/3/17.
n. \$107 1/2	Indo-China (Combined Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.) Preferred	60,000	\$5	all	172 Dec.	62 1/2 Jan.	190	171	Final of 3/- on Pref. and 40/- on Left Shares at Ex. 2/4/16 Paid 10/5/17. making 5% on Pref. & 50% for Defr. a/c 1916.
n. \$40		60,000	\$5	all	68 Oct.	54 Aug.	55	40	Interim of 2/- for 1916 (Coupon 27).
b. 109/-	Shell T'port & T'ing Co., Ltd.	3,797,610	\$1	all	94 1/6 June.	75/- Jan.	112 1/6	86 1/6	\$1.30 Div. and 20 cents bonus for year ending 30.4.17 Payable 30/5/17.
b. \$30	Star Ferry Company, Ltd.	40,000	\$10	all	39 1/2 Oct.	23 July	41	30	
n. \$107 1/2	Refineries. China S. Refining Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	all	134 1/2 Sept.	80 Jan.	146	100	\$12 for 1916. Paid 31/3/17. \$5 for 1915. Paid 15/2/17.
n. \$304 1/2	Malabon S. Refining Co., Ltd.	14,000	P. \$9	all			41	29 1/2	
b. 32 1/2	Mining. Kailan Mining Adm'tion.	1,000,000	\$1	all	35/- April	30/- Dec.	36 1/2	26/-	Interim Div. of 1/- year end 30/6/17. Payable 1/5/17. (Coupon 9).
n. \$26 1/2	Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	200,000	\$1	all	440 Mar.	240 Jan.	335	170	1/- for 1909
n. 27 1/2	Tronoh Mines Ltd.	67,000	\$1	all	25/- Dec.	32 1/2 Mar.	42 1/2	27/-	Final of 4/- making 5/- for a/c year ending 12/11/15 paid July 1916.
n. 33/-	Ural Caspian	796,666	\$1	all	43/- April	25/- Jan.	38 1/2	28/-	Div. of \$4 & Bonus \$2 for 1916. Paid 22/2/17.
n. \$79	Docks & Wharves, Godowns, &c. H'kong & K.W. & G. Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	all	82 Oct.	65 April	90	71	Final Div. \$2 1/2. Bonus \$6.00 making \$8.75 for 1916. Paid 27/3/17. Tls. 7 for year ending 30.4.16 Tls. 5 for 1915. Paid 12/3/17.
n. \$121 1/2	H.K. & W.D. Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$50	all	90 Oct.	56 Mar.	135	78 1/2	\$3 for 1/2 year ending 31.12.16 Paid 17/2/17.
b. 4 5/8	S'hai Dock & Eng. Co., Ltd.	55,700	\$160	all	63 1/2 Sept.	49 July	92 1/2	59	Final Div. of \$3 1/2 making \$7 for year ending 31/12/16. Paid 29/1/17.
n. 7 3/4	S'hai & H'kew W. Co., Ltd.	36,000	\$160	all	100 Dec.	70 April	95	73	Final Div. of \$3 1/2 making \$7 for year ending 31/12/16. Paid 29/1/17.
b. \$100	Land, Hotels and Buildings. H'kong Hotel Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$50	all	124 Feb.	108 Dec.	118	100	Final Div. of \$3 1/2 making \$7 for year ending 31/12/16. Paid 29/1/17.
n. 197 1/2	H'kong Land Investment Co.	50,000	\$100	all	114 Jan.	103 1/2 Dec.	105 1/2	91	50 cents for 1916. Paid 12/2/17. \$2 for 1915. Paid 10/2/17.
n. \$6 1/2	H'khyres Estate & F. Co., Ltd.	150,000	\$10	all	7 1/4 Jan.	6 July	7.10	6.25	Final Div. of 6% making 12% for 1916. Paid 15/3/17.
n. \$33	K'loon Land & B'ing Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$50	30	44 Jan.	40 Sept.	38	34	Final Div. of \$3.25 making \$5.25 for year ending 31/12/16. Paid 29/1/17.
b. 1.80	Shanghai Lands	78,000	\$50	all	17 Mar.	107 Dec.	107	80	Tls. 0.50 for year ending 30.11.16 Tls. 1.20 for 1913. Paid 13.2.14.
b. \$75	West Point Building Co., Ltd.	1,500	\$50	all	65 1/2 Mar.	77 Dec.	90	69	Dividend of Tls. 6 for year ending 30.6.16 paid 29/9/16
n. 199	H'kong Central Estate Cotton Mills	1,000	\$100	all	103 Dec.	99 Jan.	103	93	7% a/c Pref. for 14 Months ending Dec. 1915
b. 1.150	Ewo Cotton S. & W. Co., Ltd.	2,000	\$50	all	180 July	117 Jan.	167	130	60 cents for 1916. Paid 23/2/17.
n. 1.144	Kung Yik	75,000	\$10	all	16 1/2 July	14 Feb.	16 1/2	11 1/2	Final Div. \$1. Bonus \$1. making \$3 for 1916. Paid 10/3/17.
n. 1.121	Laou Kung Mow	40,000	\$100	all	90 1/2 Sept.	72 Jan.	81	63	Int. Div. 7% at 2/11/16 = 16 1/2 Fin. 23 1/2 4/4 = 48 making 64 1/2 cts. for 1916. Paid 25/4/17.
b. 1.580	Yangtzeppoo	175,000	\$5	all	6 1/2 Oct.	6 1/2 Dec.	6 1/2	4 1/2	Tls. 1 for 1916. Paid 28/4/17.
n. \$7.25	Miscellaneous. China Porcel Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$12	all	11 1/2 Apr.	4 1/2 May	10.35	7.25	70 cts. for 1916. Paid 23/2/17.
n. \$4.50	China Light Power Co., Ltd. (Spec. shares)	50,000	\$5	all	3.65 Mar.	4.95 Oct.	4.90	4.30	\$3 for year ending 31/7/16 paid 31/10/16.
n. \$3	China Prov. L. & M. Co., Ltd.	115,000	\$10	all	7 1/2 Jan.	10.15 Oct.	10.10	8	Fin. Div. \$9 making \$11 for year 1916. Paid 29/3/17.
n. \$2.80	Fairy Farm Company, Ltd.	60,000	\$5	all	35 Jan.	29 Dec.	41	23	Final Div. \$1. Bonus \$1. making \$3 for 1916. Paid 10/3/17.
n. \$2.80	Green Island Cement Co., Ltd.	400,000	\$7.50	all	11.20 Oct.	5.20 Jan.	12.10	7.80	Int. Div. 7% at 2/11/16 = 16 1/2 Fin. 23 1/2 4/4 = 48 making 64 1/2 cts. for 1916. Paid 25/4/17.
n. \$1.49	Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$10	all	45 Oct.	36 1/2 Feb.	55	43	Tls. 1 for 1916. Paid 28/4/17.
n. \$1.51	Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd.	6,000	\$25	all	190 Dec.	183 Oct.	190	151	70 cts. on fully paid shares and 7 cts. on \$1 paid shares for year ending 30.4.17 Payable 26/5/17
n. \$28 1/2	Hongkong Rope Mfg. Co., Ltd.	60,000	\$10	all	34 1/2 Dec.	25 Jan.	41	28 1/2	\$1.25, per share for year ending 31.12.16. Paid 3/2/17.
n. \$6.60	Hongkong Tramway Co., Ltd.	325,000	\$5/-	all	6 Oct.	5 Apr.	7.50	5 1/4	70 cts. for 1916. Paid 23/2/17.
b. 1.17	Langkats	250,000	\$10	all	43 1/2 May	35 Mar.	40 1/2	16 1/2	50 cts. on old shares and 25 cts. on new shares for year ending 30.6.14
n. \$9.80	Peak Tramway Co., Ltd. (Old)	25,000	\$10	all	10 1/2 Mar.	9.30 June	10.25	9 1/2	
n. \$1	Do. (New)	10,000	\$10	\$1	1.00 Mar.	80 cts. Aug.	1.00	60 cts.	
b. \$3.40	Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$5	all	4.25 Jan.	3 June	3.80	2.40	
n. \$16	Union Water-boat Co., Ltd.	27,728	\$10	all	19 Jan.	16 Dec.	17	14	
b. \$6.75	Watson and Co., Ltd.	90,000	\$10	all	7.10 Mar.	6.50 Oct.	7.70	6	
n. \$6.50	William Powell, Limited	21,000	\$7	all	6.90 Aug.	6 Dec.	7 1/2	5 1/2	
n. \$29	S. C. Morning Post	6,000	\$25	all	28	28	29	28	
n. \$10	H'kong Steel Foundry Co., Ltd.	7,808	\$10	all			10	9 1/2	

BENJAMIN & POTTS, Share and General Brokers, Princes Building, HONGKONG. Tel. address. Broker, CORROTTED TO NOON, MAY 25, 1917. TELEPHONE NO. 1152.

ANY SUBSEQUENT ALTERATIONS WILL BE FOUND IN "UP TO THE MINUTE SHARE MARKET NEWS" THE TELEGRAPH DOES NOT HOLD ITSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE QUOTATIONS.

SHARE REPORT.

Messrs. Benjamin and Potts, in their share report dated Friday, the 25th of May, 1917, state:—
The local market since our report of the 18th instant has continued dull, with very little business passing. Rates are practically unchanged.
The Shanghai market seems to be in a more or less lifeless condition also. Cottons are slightly easier, whilst Shanghai Docks on the other hand have advanced a couple of points.
SINGAPORE remains featureless with prices at about last week's level. Plantation rubber comes through at 3 1/2 market steady.
BANKS.—Small sales have been made at \$705, at which rate more shares could probably be obtained.
MARINE & FIRE INSURANCES.—Once again we have no business to report under this heading. Unions remain nominal at \$270, and Canton at \$350. China Fire could be placed at \$146, and Hongkong Fire at \$325. Yangtze at \$217, exch: 73, and North China at Tls. 150, are both nominal.
SHIPPING.—Douglases have been placed at \$81, and more shares are wanted at this rate. There has been a better demand all the week for this stock, but few sellers are forthcoming. Deferred Indos, after sales at \$109 1/2 at the beginning of the week, dropped to \$107 1/2, at which rate a very fair business has been done. There is a fair demand both for cash and forward shares. Shells are wanted at 109 1/2. Steamboats have buyers at \$17 1/2 after sales at the rate. Star Ferries have dropped to a buying quotation of \$30. Particulars of the Company's report for the year ending 30th of April, 1917, are given below.
REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been a sagging market, and business has been done at various rates down to \$100. At the close they are nominal at \$107. Malabons are on offer at \$30.
OILS & MINING.—Raub at \$26 1/2 are nominal as are Tronohs at 27 1/2. Kailans have had a further rise during the week to 32 1/2 or divided, with sales at this rate. Langkats are wanted in the North at Tls. 17.

DOCKS & WHARVES.

Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been sold at \$122 1/2, \$121 1/2, and \$121, and at the close are nominal at \$121 1/2. Kowloon Wharves are a weak market at \$79 sellers. Shanghai Docks have improved to a buying quotation of Tls. 93 1/2, after sales at this rate.
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Hotels are wanted at \$100. Hamphreys' Estates have been placed at \$6.40, but at the close there are no buyers over \$6.25. Central Estates at \$99. Hongkong Lands at \$97 1/2 and Kowloon Lands at \$33 are all nominal. West Points are wanted at \$75.
MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have further declined to \$7.80, at which rate business has been done. Low Level Tramways have changed hands at \$8.50. Electrics after sales at \$49 are still wanted. Dairy Farms have again placed at \$23, and Union Waterboats have found buyers at \$18. Fowells are offered at \$6.50. Steam Laundries at \$3.30 and Watsons at \$6.75 are both wanted. China Lights have been done at \$4.50. China Providents at \$7.90 and China Borneos at \$7.25 are both nominal, after sales at these rates.
FORWARD SETTLEMENT DAYS.—30th May (Wednesday), 28th June (Thursday), 27th July (Friday), and 29th August (Wednesday).

RUBBER DIVIDENDS DECLARED.—Tebongs have declared a final of Tls. 1.50, payable on the 5th of June, Karsans a final of Tls. 1.20, payable on 7th of June. Chempedaks have declared an interim of Tls. 0.50 payable on 25th May.
EXCHANGE.—The T. T. rate on London is 2 1/4 and T. T. on Singapore is 10 1/4.
COMPANIES' REPORTS.
PEAK TRAMWAYS CO., LTD.—The net profit for the year ending 30th April, 1917, amounts to \$22,032.08, to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account (\$1,509.92) making available for appropriation \$23,541.98. The Directors recommend that a dividend of 7 per cent be paid to shareholders, amounting to \$21,000.00, and that the balance of \$2,541.98 be carried to the new profit and loss account.
WILLIAM POWELL, LTD.—After deducting the debit balance of \$12,183.85, carried over from last year's account, the net profit amounts to \$2,044.29, which the Directors propose to appropriate as follows:—\$10,000.00 for the creation of a General Reserve Fund, \$4,104.47 to write off fixtures and fittings, and to carry forward the balance of \$9,938.82.
STAR FERRY CO., LTD.—The net earnings of the boats for year ending 30th April, 1917, after paying all working expenses, amounted to \$117,699.52, against \$88,942.58 the previous year. The amount at credit of profit and loss account (after paying for repairs, allowing for Directors' and Auditors' fees, placing \$4,300 to credit of Accident Fund, and contributing \$1,000 to War Charities), including \$2,615.95 brought forward, is \$105,985.79, which it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—To pay a dividend of \$1.80 per share from working account, absorbing \$72,000.00; to pay a bonus of 30 Cents per share from interest account, \$12,000.00; to write off Ice House Street Pier \$5,000.00; To write off boats \$10,000.00; and to carry forward \$6,985.79.

COMPANIES' NOTICES, MEETINGS, ETC.
A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.—Annual Ordinary General Meeting will be held at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday, 26th May, 1917, at noon. Transfer Books will be closed from the 21st to 28th May, both days inclusive.
PEAK TRAMWAYS CO., LTD.—Ordinary Annual General Meeting will be held at Hongkong Hotel, on Saturday, 26th May, 1917, at 11.30 a.m. Transfer Books will be closed from 22nd to 28th May, 1917, both days inclusive.
THE "STAR" FERRY CO., LTD.—Ordinary Annual Meeting will be held at the Offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., on Wednesday, 30th May, 1917, at noon. Transfer Books will be closed from 24th to 30th May, both days inclusive.

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, Friday, 25th May, 1917.

SELLING.		4 m/s. Marks		Nom.
T/T	2/4 1/2	4 m/s. France	3.56	
Demand	2/4 1/2	6 m/s. France	3.41	
30 d/s	2/4 1/2	Demand, Germany	3.41	
60 d/s	2/4 1/2	Demand, New York	56 1/2	
4 m/s.	2/4 1/2	T/T Bombay	Nom.	
T/T Shanghai	Nom.	Demand, Bombay	Nom.	
T/T Singapore	10 1/4	T/T Calcutta	Nom.	
T/T Japan	11 1/4	Demand, Calcutta	Nom.	
T/T India	Nom.	Demand, Manila	113 1/2	
Demand, India	Nom.	Demand, Singapore	10 1/4	
T/T San Francisco	56 1/2	On Haiphong	35 1/2, premium	
co & New York	56 1/2	On Saigon	35 1/2, premium	
T/T Java	137	On Bangkok	64 1/2	
T/T Manila	Nom.	Sovereign	8.30, Nom.	
T/T France	3.24 1/2	Gold Leaf, per oz.	48.20	
Demand, Paris	3.24 1/2	Bar Silver, per oz.	37 1/2	

BUYING.		SUBSIDIARY COINS.	
4 m/s. L/C	2/5 7/16	Chinese, 20 cts. piece	7 1/2, 7 1/2, 7 1/2
4 m/s. D/P	2/5 9/16	Chinese, 10	6 7/8, 6 7/8, 6 7/8
6 m/s. L/C	2/5 11/16	Hongkong 20 cts. piece	par.
30 d/s Sydney & Melbourne	2/5 11/16	Hongkong 10	"
30 d/s San Francisco & New York	59		

DISCOUNT PER \$100:

Chinese, 20 cts. piece, 7 1/2, 7 1/2, 7 1/2

Chinese, 10, 6 7/8, 6 7/8, 6 7/8

Hongkong 20 cts. piece, par.

Hongkong 10, "

